



Board of Elections | The City of New York

Annual Report 2007



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	INTRODUCTION
04	PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
05	COMMISSIONERS' PROFILES
10	EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT
10	SENIOR STAFF
11	BOROUGH OFFICES
13	CANDIDATE RECORDS UNIT
14	COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
15	VOTER REGISTRATION
16	ELECTION DAY OPERATIONS/POLL SITE MANAGEMENT
18	VOTING MACHINE DEPARTMENT
18	FACILITIES OPERATIONS
19	PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT
20	ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT
21	PERSONNEL AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT
23	FINANCE
24	GENERAL COUNSEL
25	MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM DEPARTMENT (MIS)
27	GENERAL ELECTIONS TURNOUT CHART
28	ACTIVE REGISTRATION TOTALS BY COUNTY CHART

The Board is headed by ten Commissioners, two from each borough representing both major political parties for a term of four years approved by the New York City Council...

...A similar bipartisan arrangement of over 316 deputies, clerks and other personnel insures that no one party controls the Board of Elections. The Board appoints an executive staff consisting of an Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and other senior staff managers charged with the responsibility to oversee the operations of the Board on a daily basis. Together, the executive and support staffs provide a wide range of electoral services to residents in Manhattan, The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island.

The Commissioners of Elections meet every Tuesday at the Executive Office, in addition to the special hearings, legislative sessions and specific issue-oriented meetings (electronic voting, election legislation, labor management, rules and budget) during the calendar year.

Commissioners of Elections in the City of New York

	BOROUGH	PARTY
ANTHONY COMO, PRESIDENT	Queens	Republican
TERRENCE C. O'CONNOR	Queens	Democrat
JAMES J. SAMPEL, SECRETARY	Staten Island	Democrat
MARYANN YENNELLA	Staten Island	Republican
NANCY MOTTOLA - SCHACHER	Brooklyn	Republican
JULIE DENT	Brooklyn	Democrat
NERO GRAHAM JR.	Bronx	Democrat
JUAN CARLOS J.C. POLANCO	Bronx	Republican
GREGORY C. SOUMAS	Manhattan	Democrat
FREDERIC M. UMANE	Manhattan	Republican



From left to right (top row):
Juan Carlos J.C. Polanco, Frederic M. Umane,
Gregory C. Soumas, Nero Graham Jr.,
Nancy Mottola-Schacher, Julie Dent
(bottom row):
Maryann Yennella, Anthony Como,
James J. Sampel, Terrence C. O'Connor,

Mission Statement



The Board of Elections in the City of New York, as provided under Section 3-200 of the New York State Election Law, is responsible:

- 1. To conduct fair and honest elections, from local to federal levels;**
- 2. To enfranchise all eligible New Yorkers to register to vote and to practice those rights;**
- 3. To conduct elections, certify the canvass and to retain the official records;**
- 4. Voter outreach and education.**

Briefly stated, this means:

First, the preparation of the ballot for Primary, Special and General Elections to the extent that all vacancies for public office and party positions may be filled.

Second, that qualified voters may exercise their right to franchise and that every opportunity be given to voters to execute that right and to vote for whom they choose.

Third, that the votes of the electorate at Primary, Special and General Elections be properly canvassed and that a true count be given for each candidate voted for.

Finally, that we make every effort to inform and educate the voting public of their rights as a voter and also to reach out to all Americans to instruct them in the voting process.

The following pages of this report will illustrate some of the duties as classified in the above synopsis:

President's Message

Anthony Como
President



The Board of Elections in the City of New York has worked tirelessly to ensure that every New Yorker's Constitutional right to vote is counted and protected, while New York City enters into a new day and a new era with the implementation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

From the petitioning process to and including election day, our entire organization works to ensure every New Yorker's voice is heard when they walk into the voting booth. We are constantly working to make sure not only that the City Board of Elections complies with HAVA but is at the forefront, not only for the entire State but for the Nation.

We are continuing to work with the public, in making them aware of the entire process that is being undertaken in evaluating the new voting machines and in choosing a machine, when that time comes. The Board has made many of the meetings for evaluating said machines public and it is our intention to continue to do so. Furthermore, each and every Commissioner is now serving on various sub-committees for various levels of the HAVA processes so they can report back to the entire Board of Commissioners upon completion of their evaluations.

The implementation of the Ballot Marking Devices in each borough office on primary and election day continues to be an added achievement for every voter in this great City. We will continue working with the disability community and representatives of the various organizations that represent them and encourage them to assist us as we place a ballot marking device in each and every poll site throughout the City.

It has indeed been an honor to serve as President of the New York City Board of Elections and it will indeed be a privilege to continue to serve as Commissioner of the Queens County Board of Elections, so that together with my fellow Commissioners we may continue to bring this great City into the new era of voting.

GREGORY C. SOUMAS ESQ., Commissioner

Gregory Soumas is the New York City Board of Elections Democratic representative from Manhattan and was appointed by the New York City Council in 2005.

Mr. Soumas graduated from Syracuse University with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and earned a juris doctor degree from Suffolk University Law School in Boston, MA.

A native New Yorker, Mr. Soumas was born in Manhattan and raised in the Riverdale section of the Bronx. He currently lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with his wife, Robin. He has been a Democratic Party district leader since he was first elected in 2002.



Manhattan

FREDERIC M. UMANE ESQ., Commissioner

Frederic M. Umane has served as a commissioner of the New York City Board of Elections since 1995. A Republican from Manhattan, he was president of the Board during the 2005 mayoral election and has been active in local politics for more than twenty years.

An attorney, Mr. Umane is a partner at Zeichner Ellman and Krause and heads the firm's transactional banking, corporate and real estate group. He has substantial experience in bank regulatory matters and issues involving mortgage fraud, automobile and hotel finances.

Mr. Umane is admitted to the practice of law in New York State and the federal courts. He is an active member of the American Bar Association as well as the Associations of the Bar of the City of New York and New York State.

He received his J.D. from Albany Law School and his B.A from Union University. Mr. Umane is married to Susan Umane and they have two children, Ryan and Bradley.





NERO GRAHAM Jr., Commissioner

In 2001, the New York City Council elected Nero Graham Jr. to be the Democratic commissioner for the Bronx County Board of Elections. In 2004, his colleagues elected him to serve as president of the New York City Board of Elections for that year.

For 28 years, Mr. Graham worked for the New York City Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services, retiring as its chief in 1999. He has won numerous awards and citations, among them a proclamation from the City of New York declaring June 23, 1988 as "Nero Graham Jr. Day." Mr. Graham is the President of the Mount Hope Housing Corporation.

Mr. Graham was one of the founders of the Morris Avenue Block and Tenants' Patrol which grew into the Morris Avenue Community Action Program. He serves on the boards of the Bronx Heritage Society, Inc. and Latinos Making a Difference, Inc.

Bronx



JUAN CARLOS "J.C." POLANCO ESQ., MBA, Commissioner

J.C. (Juan Carlos) Polanco is the New York City Board of Elections Republican representative from Bronx County and was appointed by the New York City Council in 2007.

Mr. Polanco presently serves as director of the New York City Regional Office for State Assembly Minority Leader James N. Tedisco. He is the principal of Polanco Law, PLLC and is licensed to practice law in the states of New York and New Jersey. He is a real estate broker for the Polanco Organization, LLC. In addition, Mr. Polanco is an adjunct professor at Boricua College and CUNY/Borough of Manhattan Community College, where he specializes in ethnic studies, history and political science.

Previously, Mr. Polanco spent three years teaching social studies at Harry S. Truman High School in the Bronx. He earned his bachelor's degree in History / Political Science from The State University of New York. In 2005, as a night student, he completed a Juris Doctor and a master of business administration degree at Fordham University.

A member of the New York Republican State Committee, Mr. Polanco serves as executive district leader for the 80th Assembly District and is a vice president of the GOP in Bronx County.

Mr. Polanco lives with his wife, Sandra, and their two children, Savannah and Sebastian, in the Morris Park section of the Bronx.

JAMES J. SAMPEL ESQ., Commissioner

James J. Sampel is the Staten Island Democratic representative and was appointed by the New York City Council in 2005.

An attorney, Mr. Sampel opened his own firm, Sampel & Nalley, Esqs., in 1987 where he focuses on civil, criminal and matrimonial law.

After Mr. Sampel graduated from high school in 1957, he joined the U.S. Army where he served in Germany for two years. He was honorably discharged in 1960.

Mr. Sampel spent three decades in the New York City Police Department. After rising to the rank of detective in the Organized Crime Control Bureau, he attended college and law school. In 1979, he was assigned as a prosecutor in the Police Department's Advocates' Office and ended his service in the Staten Island Detective Area – Crimes Against Property Squad.

Mr. Sampel graduated magna cum laude from City University of New York, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and earned his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law. He is admitted to the practice of law in New York State and the federal courts. He is married to Mel Chamberlain and has two children, Michael and Allison, and is the proud grandfather to Matthew, Taylor and Steven.



Staten Island

MARYANN YENNELLA, Commissioner

MaryAnn Yennella is the New York City Board of Elections Republican representative from Staten Island. She was appointed by the City Council in 2004.

Ms. Yennella has served the Board of Elections in the City of New York and the people of Staten Island since 1976. Prior to her appointment as Republican Commissioner, Ms. Yennella was the Staten Island Deputy Chief. As Deputy Chief, Ms. Yennella ensured the Board's compliance with election law, judicial and executive orders and any Commissioners' directives.

Ms. Yennella enjoys baking and cartooning. Ms. Yennella has two daughters, Michelle Cascio wife of John Cascio and Alexandra Lundberg wife of Eric Lundberg. Ms. Yennella is the proud grandmother of Sara & Michael Cascio and Alyssa Lundberg.





NANCY MOTTOLA-SCHACHER ESQ., Commissioner

Nancy Mottola-Schacher is the New York City Board of Elections Republican representative from Kings County and was appointed by the New York City Council in 2001.

An attorney, Ms. Mottola-Schacher has served as the law judge for the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. She was the law secretary for Judge Joseph Soviero and served as the senior attorney for the New York State Mental Health Information Service, second Judicial Department.

Ms. Mottola-Schacher earned her B.A. and J.D. from St. John's University.

She has been the president of the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association and was named the Kings County "Republican of the Year for Community Service" by the Brownstone Republican Club. Ms. Mottola-Schacher has been honored with the national achievement A.M.I.T.A. award as the most distinguished American woman of Italian descent in the field of law.

She was also named Republican of the year by the Kings County Republican party in 2001.

Brooklyn



JULIE DENT, Commissioner

Julie Dent was appointed to the New York City Board of Elections in July 2007 as the Democratic commissioner representing Kings County.

A community activist, counselor and teacher, Ms. Dent is the executive and educational director of the Audrey Johnson DayCare center and chairs the local Community Board where the preschool is located. She is a former Executive Board member of School Board District 32, the former vice chairperson on the Advisory Board of Woodhull Hospital and she has collaborated with the New York City Police Department and Citizen Committee of New York to engage youth in responding to the needs of the elderly in the community.

Ms. Dent is listed in Who's Who in American Education and Who's Who of American Women. She has been honored by the Professional Association of Day Care Directors, the New York City Council and the Federation of Protestant Welfare, Inc, NY State Senate, NY State Assembly, Brooklyn District Attorney, Former Mayor Giuliani and current Mayor Michael Bloomberg. She is also the recipient of the 2007 National Association of Childcare Professionals.

Ms. Dent has earned a M.S. degree with honors in education from City College of New York. She and received her bachelor's degree from Empire State College in Saratoga Springs, NY and associate's degree from the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

ANTHONY COMO ESQ., Commissioner

Anthony Como is the New York City Board of Elections Commissioner from Queens County and was appointed by the New York City Council in 2005.

An attorney, Mr. Como opened his own law office in Queens County after four years as a prosecutor in the Queens District Attorney's office. Following an unsuccessful run for the New York State Assembly, Mr. Como was appointed to the Board of Elections. He is also chief counsel to State Senator Serphin R. Maltese of the New York State 15th Senate District.

Mr. Como is a member of the boards of directors of the Peter Cardella Senior Center in Ridgewood, Queens, Italian Charities of America, Christ the King Regional High School and the Italian American Federal Credit Union

He received his B.A. from Queens College and his J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law. Mr. Como was admitted to the New York State Bar in 2001.

Mr. Como is married to Tiziana Como, a school psychologist who helps young children with disabilities.



Queens

TERRENCE C. O'CONNOR ESQ., Commissioner

Terrence C. O'Connor, a Democrat, is one of two New York City Board of Elections commissioners from Queens County and was first appointed in 1998.

An attorney, Mr. O'Connor has practiced in his own firm since 1983. His prior experience includes serving as counsel to New York State Assemblyman Saul Weprin, law secretary to Queens County Administrative Judge Francis X. Smith and as an assistant district attorney in Queens County.

Mr. O'Connor received his bachelor's degree from Fordham University and his J.D. from St. John's University School of Law.

In 2001, he was named "Attorney of the Year" by the Catholic Lawyer's Guild of Queens County. He is the chairman of the Board of Directors of that organization and is the past president of both the Fordham University, College at Lincoln Center Alumni Association and the Saint Patrick's Society of Queens County. He is a member of the New State and Queens County Bar Association.

Mr. O'Connor is the President of the Continental Regular Democratic Club.

His wife, Sheila, is a health insurance consultant and they have two grown children, Siobhan and Daniel.



Executive Management



JOHN RAVITZ
Executive Director



GEORGE GONZALEZ
Deputy Executive Director



PAMELA GREEN PERKINS
Administrative Manager

Senior Staff

JOSEPH LAROCCA

Coordinator of Candidate Records Unit

VALERIE VAZQUEZ-RIVERA

Director of Communications & Public Affairs

BETH FOSSELLA

Coordinator of Voter Registration Activities

ROSANNA KOSTAMOULAS RAHMOUNI

Coordinator of Election Day Operations

JOHN O'GRADY

Chief Voting Machine Technician

NICHOLAS SQUICCIARINI

Facilities Manager

ELLIOT B. BORACK

Agency Chief Contracting Officer

LUCILLE GRIMALDI

Director of Electronic Voting Systems

PHIL V. DONAHUE

Personnel Manager/Records Retention Officer

JOHN WARD

Finance Officer

STEVEN H. RICHMAN

General Counsel

STEVEN FERGUSON

Director of Management Information Services

CHARLES WEBB, III, STEVEN DENKBERG

Counsels to the Commissioners

Borough Offices

MANHATTAN

200 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014
(212) 886-2100

TROY JOHNSON
Chief Clerk

TIMOTHY GAY
Deputy Chief Clerk

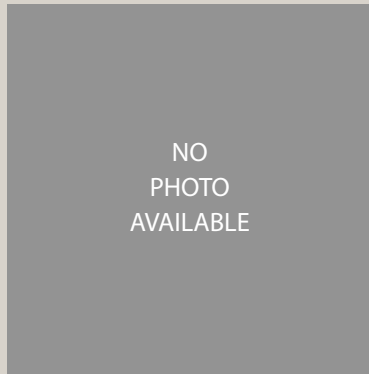


BRONX

1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10457
(718) 299-9017

DAWN SANDOW
Deputy Chief Clerk

ANNA TORRES
Deputy Chief Clerk



BROOKLYN

345 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 797-8800

DIANE HASLETT-RUDIANO
Chief Clerk

MARYROSE SATTIE
Deputy Chief Clerk



Borough Offices Cont'd

QUEENS

126-06 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, NY 11415
(718) 730-6730

BARBARA CONACCHIO
Chief Clerk

KATHERINE JAMES
Deputy Chief Clerk



STATEN ISLAND

1 Edgewater Plaza, 4th Fl., Staten Island, NY 10305
(718) 876-0079

SHEILA DELGIORNO
Chief Clerk

ANTHONY ANDRIULLI
Deputy Chief Clerk



Candidate Records Unit



JOSEPH LAROCCA
Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit

The Candidate Records Unit (CRU) of the New York City Board of Elections is responsible for the receiving, recording, processing and tracking of all candidate and objector document filings as well as ballot production for Primary, General and Special Election events.

The CRU staff maintains accurate candidate status on all these items in order to insure an accurate ballot. The staff prepares, reviews, updates and corrects errors identified on all proofs of voting machine and paper (absentee, military, BMD and standby emergency) ballots, working closely with ballot printer vendors.

The unit is also responsible for the receiving, recording and monitoring candidate's compliance of Campaign Financial Disclosures requirements. Documents received are recorded and tracked. CRU staff makes courtesy telephone calls and sends non-compliant Treasures notices by USPS Certified Mail as well as notifying non-compliant candidates by regular first class mail. Non-compliant candidates and committees are reported to the Board of Commissioners, who will instruct the Agency Enforcement Officer to begin legal proceedings against those in violation.

Communications and Public Affairs



VALERIE VAZQUEZ-RIVERA
Director of Communications and
Public Affairs

Media/Press

The Communications Department works closely with the working press, radio and television stations to assist them with any information they need pertaining to election, candidate information and other election related subjects. This year, we continued the dissemination of information by distributing information kits to members of the press and any other interested groups that requested them. These kits contained a poll site list and any pertinent press releases.

Outreach

The Outreach Team, comprised of staff from each of the boroughs, continued its agenda of visiting various organizations and community groups that request our presence. We visited public and private school providing school auditorium programs and individual classroom instruction, neighborhood block associations, health fairs and local civic organizations.

Legal Notices

In accordance with New York State election law, legal notices were placed in newspapers one week before the election. These ads contained the names, addresses and political party affiliation of each candidate running in every election throughout the city. Ads were also placed the day before the election and the day of the election that contained the date of election as well as the hours that the polls are open. We also placed a full page ad informing the public of the availability of the Ballot Marking Device at their respective Borough Super Poll Site.

Voter Registration



BETH FOSSELLA
Coordinator, Voter Registration

The Voter Registration Department is responsible for all activities pertaining to voter registration in New York City.

- Reaching out to all eligible voters in the City of New York and making them aware of the importance of being a registered voter and how much their vote counts. This is accomplished thru:
 1. conducting registration drives at various community activities (street fairs, work fairs, community organization meeting, senior citizen community centers, etc.)
 2. visiting the high schools within the city informing students who are going to be eligible to vote, how important it is to be a registered voter
 3. distribution of voter registration material to the public. It is to be noted that all voter registration material is translated, in accordance to law, in the four languages – English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean
- Providing and making sure that all registration material is updated in accordance with New York State Law.
- Making sure that all Voter Registration material is updated and translated into the four languages required by law, English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean.
- Providing and updating all voter registration information that must be put up on the Board of Election's web page. This information is done in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean.

INFORMATION NOTICES

In August of each year the Board of Elections sends out Voter Information Notices to all Active and Inactive Registered Voters. These Information Notices give the voter all the necessary information regarding the upcoming elections as well as informing the voter where his Poll Site is and what district the voter must vote at.

The total number of Information Notices sent to the voter 2007 was 4,088,590.

Election Day Operations / Poll Site Management



ROSANNA KOSTAMOULAS RAHMOUNI
Coordinator, Election Day Operations

POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT AND OUTREACH

This department is charged with the responsibility for the recruiting, training, placement and performance of the approximately 55,376 individuals who “man” the polls and serve voters on Election Day.

There are several different Poll Worker positions varying in qualifications and different in degrees of responsibility:

The **COORDINATOR** is placed in polling sites with multiple election districts (ED's) or boards, serves as the troubleshooter and supervises or “coordinates” the workers and assures that voters receive courteous, prompt and proper service.

INFORMATION CLERKS are placed at sites with multiple election districts and, through the use of the Street Directories and polling place lists, can direct voters to their correct voting districts and polling places.

DOOR CLERKS are assigned to polling places with alternate handicapped accessible entrances where the doors cannot remain open or assistance is required.

INSPECTORS and **POLL CLERKS** are the actual backbone of the Board's Election Day workforce. There are four **INSPECTORS** at each Election District or board, two enrolled Democrats and two Republicans. The NYS Election Law requires the equal representation of the two major parties (receiving the highest and second-highest number of votes at the last gubernatorial election) to ensure a “checks and balances” so that no one party has the advantage. **POLL CLERKS** likewise are equally divided and these workers are mainly used when there are more than 750 voters in a district. They collect the cards from the voters and change the party lever to reflect the political party enrollment of the voter. These individuals may also stand in for Inspectors if there are vacancies.

Election Day Operations / Poll Site Management Cont'd

INTERPRETERS assist limited-English voters in various neighborhoods and counties in NYC. The Board provides Spanish/English, Chinese/English (Cantonese/Mandarin) and Korean/English Interpreters in areas with a high concentration of these individuals as indicated by the last Census figures.

A.D. POLL SITE MONITORS are a group of specially trained Poll Workers that monitor an assembly district on Election Day and troubleshoot and correct any problem at the poll site.

While the Coordinators, Inspectors and Poll Clerks are required by law to be citizens and registered voters, the Information Clerk, Interpreter and Door Clerk positions have no such requirements. County applicants make up a great portion of the total complement needed to staff the polls, but thousands of positions still must be filled. To this end the Board trains and assigns Poll Workers recruited from the City University of New York and various civic and advocacy groups. Poll Worker applicants also received and submitted forms they had obtained from the Board's VOTE-NYC (manned and automated) Phone Bank and Borough Offices, from its website: www.vote.nyc.ny.us or by indicating interest in serving on their voter registration applications.

POLL WORKER TRAINING AND INITIATIVES

During 2007 sixty-two Adjunct Trainers conducted Poll Worker training by holding 1475 classes in 77 sites throughout New York City. Three-hour Poll Worker classes are presented and augmented by demonstration of the mechanical voting machine currently used in the city. Visual aids, various voter information forms and materials used in elections are displayed and the Training Manual is provided to each applicant for guidance and review.

The Poll Worker Manual has a section regarding Diversity as well as incorporating Customer Service Training in our Poll Worker Classes. VOTE-NOTES, which are a quick

reference tool the Poll Workers use on Election Day, were produced. The Board's Poll Worker Training Video was aired on various cable television stations, so that they could tune in and brush up on procedures before the elections. Many district and poll site signs were reworked to provide voter information and assistance in all four mandated languages. These multi-language materials, including "How To Use The Voting Machine" stickers, laminated handouts and the NYS Voters Bill of Rights, were made available at all NYC poll sites.

This year we used Ballot Marking Devices at all our Borough Offices for the Primary & General Elections. The Ballot Marking Devices can accommodate people with disabilities. We specially trained our Poll Workers on the Ballot Marking Devices, which included, sip & puff, audio and rocker paddles.

NURSING HOMES PROGRAM

Through this program the Board of Elections provides special services to Nursing Care Residential Facilities and their occupants. In the Primary and General Elections of 2007, BOE staff assisted by making 229 visits to Nursing Home facilities and 7,377 absentee ballots were delivered to the residents of these facilities.

2007 ELECTIONS

The various Poll Worker positions include Coordinator, Inspector, Poll Clerk, Interpreter, Door and Information Clerk, Phone Clerks/Pct., A.D. Poll Site Monitor of the 55,376 positions established for this year's Primary & General Elections, 55,142 were assigned to specific Poll Worker applicants. Of these, approximately 2,706 were assigned as pool or standby workers to fill vacancies. Approximately 44,427 worked during the 2007 Primary and General Election.

Voting Machine Department



JOHN O'GRADY
Chief Voting Machine Technician

In 2007, the Board of Elections continued to take an aggressive position in maintaining its 45-year-old voting machines. Our aggressive preventive maintenance program resulted in good results for both the 2007 Primary and General Elections. There were 9,060 machines used during both elections and over 300,000 votes cast. There were only 5 machines that were replaced and only 1.95% of the machines required mechanical repairs during the Primary and General Elections.

Our Fleet Management system continues to be enhanced to more efficiently record all Election Day trouble calls; dispatches staff and record the resolutions of all calls. The Board continued to improve its response time for Election Day trouble calls.

I was also assigned by the Commissioners of the Board of Elections in the City of New York to assist the State in the evaluation and recommendation of the Independent Testing Authority (ITA) in the certification of the new voting systems.

Facilities Operations



NICHOLAS SQUICCIARINI
Facilities Manager

In 2007, the Board started the move of the Manhattan Voting Machine Facility which had been temporarily located at the Farley General Post Office building since 2006, to the new location at 450 West 33rd street. The move was completed by March 5, 2007, under the time line that the Department of Citywide Administrative Services wanted it to be completed. With the cooperation of the Manhattan Voting Machine Facility Staff, the Borough office, and the General office the move was completed on time without any problems. Also in 2007 the Board started looking for new facilities for Brooklyn VMF and Bronx VMF and Office, these facilities would be used to house the new Voting Machine Technology.

Procurement Department



ELLIOT B. BORACK
Agency Chief Contracting Officer, CPPB

The function of the Procurement Department is to monitor and oversee all Board of Elections spending and contracting for goods and services, and to ensure compliance with the New York City Procurement Policy Board Rules (known as the PPB).

The PPB was developed to ensure that all city agencies' procurement practices are uniform in application; and provide fair and equitable treatment to all persons doing business with the city.

Vendor Database

The Board's vendor database continues to expand. Financial Management System has provided access to a wider range of vendors. The Board continues to look for ways to increase competition for goods and services and cost savings to the agency.

Vendex Contractor Performance Evaluations

All Board of Elections' contracts are evaluated annually and several are reviewed twice a year. The evaluations provided positive responses to vendors, and helped the Board quickly identify vendors that did not fulfill their contractual responsibilities.

Monitoring Contractors

Since the inception of this program in 1996, the Boards' contractors' damages to Board owned equipment continues to decrease significantly. This monitoring continues to save the Board money and improves the overall quality of service from contractors.

Financial Management System (FMS) Procurement Project

The department continues to participate in the citywide training for the Financial Management System known as FMS. Although the system is operational, enhancements are on-going for adjustments to accommodate additional procurement needs and new ideas.

Electronic Voting Systems Department



LUCILLE GRIMALDI
Director, Electronic Voting Systems

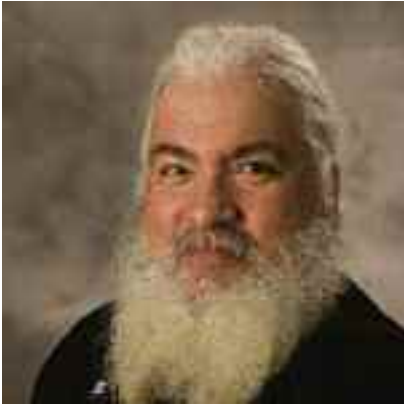
The Electronic Voting Systems Department (EVS) is responsible for all practical aspects of voting systems used to conduct elections in New York City. In 2007, ballot marking devices (BMDs) were used in the Primary and General Elections. As in 2006, the Avante Vote-Trakker ballot marking device was placed in the Board's five borough offices. Each centralized location served as a pollsite for its respective borough.

At the beginning of the planning stage, we reviewed our assessment of the 2006 elections regarding the use of the BMDs, and made some modifications. One modification was the manner of producing the audio ballots. In 2006, Board personnel recorded the ballots. In 2007, we established a contract with a professional audio production company. EVS set up the ballots in the Avante system, Board translators did the necessary language work, Board staff proofed the ballots, and the audio production company recorded the ballots. Candidates were provided the opportunity to review the pronunciation of their names before the audio ballots were finalized.

The EVS Department assisted in the development of a Request for Information (RFI), to vendors proposing products for the long-term system. Several vendors proposed voting systems, including both DREs and paper ballot scanning systems. They submitted written responses to the RFI and left their proposed products at the Board for examination by Board Staff. The evaluation and selection process did not come to a conclusion however; the court ruled that the long-term system would not be implemented in 2008. Instead, one ballot marking device was required in each pollsite.

EVS then assisted in the development of an RFI for a ballot marking device for each pollsite. The Board was not ready to begin another evaluation and selection process for a system for use in 2008.

Personnel and Records Management



PHIL V. DONAHUE
Director of Personnel/
Records Management Officer

The Director of Personnel processes all new employees upon their appointment. In addition to various documents, the Director of Personnel advises all new employees of their responsibilities and requirements. Picture ID cards are issued to all employees during their indoctrination.

The Director of Personnel is directly responsible for maintaining and updating health benefits, pension, management benefits fund, deferred compensation as well as all other NYC benefits. All health benefit actions are entered into NYCAPS, the city's client server web based application that replaced the main frame PACES system in 2006.

In addition, responsibilities include serving as liaison to the NYC Law Department in filing and maintaining all Workers' Compensation claims. A total of 25 claims of work related injuries were filed with the Personnel Office during the year 2007. Loss of time due to these injuries varied from several weeks out to a matter of only a few hours lost.

The Personnel Director represents the Board of Elections in the City of New York at all labor negotiations, contract negotiations, as well as answering grievances filed with the City's Office of Labor Relations.

It is also this department's responsibility to work directly with the NYC Office of Safety and Health in maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for all employees. On numerous occasions complaints of possible health risks were reported to the Personnel Department prompting immediate action and referral to the NYC Office of Safety and Health for recommendations. Several new facilities are being explored and environmental issues are a key factor to be considered. The health of all employees is important.

Other direct responsibilities include serving as Employee Assistance Programs officer in referring employees with needs to counseling programs. Numbers of employees entering Employee Assistance Programs or any details to the nature of their needs will remain confidential. There is a level of trust that must be maintained in order for employees to feel comfortable in seeking help. All employees are urged to avail themselves of this benefit. In cases where an employee is mandated to seek counseling as a result of a disciplinary action the employee's compliance and progress is closely tracked. The Director of Personnel also holds the title of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission officer responsible for insuring all referable laws are enforced. Investigations are conducted as required when complaints are filed.

It is the standard operating procedure of this agency that a fact finding inquiry be conducted to determine what action, if any should be taken in the cases of harassment charges being filed. That inquiry will be conducted with the Director of Personnel and General Counsel serving as the panel.

Personnel and Records Management Cont'd

In 2006 the following training programs were successfully completed utilizing our contract with the Borough of Manhattan Community College:

Assessing the Election Process

1. Assessment of 2007 with Voting Machine Facility Supervisors and Borough Department Managers
2. Assessments with Election Day Operation staff to identify diversity and customer service issues
3. Assessment of 2007 with Chief/Deputy Chief Clerks and General Office Senior Managers in separate sessions.

Adjunct Trainer Workshops

Conducted to insure that those who train our Poll Workers are using proper techniques and methods.

Communication and Presentation Skills for EDO Staff

Training for EDO staff members who are part of the Voter Outreach Program.

In addition to our extensive training program with BMCC the board also takes advantage of training offered by the Department of City Wide Administrative Services in their training center. Various employees of the board availed themselves of the following:

- INTERMEDIATE OUTLOOK 2002
- INTERMEDIATE OUTLOOK 2002
- INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL 2000
- VISIO PROFESSIONAL 2000, LEVEL I
- INTRODUCTION TO WORD 2002
- ADVANCED EXCEL 2000
- WORD 2002, LEVEL 1
- INTERMEDIATE WORD 2002
- INTERMEDIATE EXCEL 2003
- OUTLOOK 2002, LEVEL 2
- PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

The responsibility of discipline also falls to the Director of Personnel. The Personnel Guidelines must be updated as needed and all rules and regulations are enforced through the disciplinary process by the Director of Personnel. Investigations and hearings are conducted as required. Disciplinary hearings are conducted and actions taken under the direction of the Commissioners. A total of 7 hearings were conducted during 2007. Determinations of those hearings varied from termination to various levels of probation and/or suspensions.

The job responsibilities also require substantial travel around the city to visit all offices and voting machine facilities as needed, at times at a moments notice. Meetings are also conducted at various other agencies.

The Director of Personnel also serves as Records Management Officer for the agency. These responsibilities include monitoring the storage and disposal of all records in all media. A new on-line disposal tracking and storage tracking system was put into effect in 2007.



JOHN WARD
Finance Officer

The Finance Office is responsible for all budget, payroll and accounting functions of our agency. The on-going responsibilities of the Finance Office involve multi-year planning, appearances before the City Council, meeting with the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller's Office and other central agencies.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

	FY 2007 Adopted Budget	FY 2007 Final Budget
Personal Services	18,274,247	22,007,495
Other than Personal Services	63,717,770	56,247,487
Total	81,992,017	78,254,982
Staff	350	

FY07 BUDGET HIGHLIGHT

The Board of Elections had a second City wide mailing to our over 4.3 million Voters, to inform them of the availability of BMD (Ballot Marking Devices) at super poll sites in each of the 5 boroughs.

General Counsel



STEVEN H. RICHMAN
General Counsel

The General Counsel provides legal counsel to the Commissioners of Elections and to the Board's executive staff on a wide range of matters relating to ballot access, the conduct of elections, and governmental agency administration.

Administration

General Counsel drafts for consideration and adoption by the Commissioners all election calendars. General Counsel drafts for consideration and adoption by the Commissioners proposed Rules for Designating and Independent Nominating Petitions. In addition, General Counsel recommends to the Commissioners revisions of formal Board policies and procedures to insure legal compliance.

Legislative Activities

General Counsel regularly monitors all legislative and judicial action that impacts election administration and advises the Commissioners on all legal developments affecting the administration of elections, including statutory compliance with State and Federal mandates related to the Voting Rights Act and the Help America Vote Act and related judicial directives. In addition, General Counsel drafts for consideration by the Commissioners the Board's annual proposal of legislative amendments for presentation to, and consideration by, the State legislative leaders.

Compliance Activities

General Counsel advises the Commissioners on all elements of the Board's compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act. Any change in election administration affecting voter election participation in a covered county* must be approved in advance by the Department of Justice. To ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act, General Counsel oversees the preparation and filing of all applications necessary for filing with the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and General Counsel advises the Commissioners accordingly.

Ballot Access

In addition to drafting the proposed Rules for Designating and Independent Nominating Petitions, General Counsel oversees all aspects of the process for candidate filing and Board review of nomination petitions. In addition to overseeing this Board function, General Counsel acts as liaison with the Board's trial counsel in connection with any judicial review of related Board function.

Litigation

General Counsel acts as the Board's liaison with the Board's trial counsel on all matters of litigation involving the Board of Elections, its operations, and personnel.

* In New York City the counties covered by the Voting Rights Act are New York County, Kings County, Queens County, and Bronx County.

Management Information System Department (MIS)



STEVEN FERGUSON
Director, MIS

Overview

The Management Information System Department (MIS) operates the Board's Data Center, Help Desk, System Elect (S-Elect) (which is the framework for the Candidate Processing and Election Support System (CPESS) and Poll Worker Requirements and Support System (PWRSS), and District maps using Maptitude software. In addition, the Department is responsible for the Board's Phone Bank Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) (1-866-VOTE-NYC).

Data Center

High-speed lines are being added to replace old existing lines. MIS has maintained system backups for mass storage devices and DLT tape cartridges for backup of all files. The Department has procured software to permit the continuous updating and correcting of voter addresses. The Department has finalized the necessary programming and training.

The Department continues with the use of the Help Desk System. This system tracks all trouble calls and assigns them to appropriate staff for resolution and closure. In-house staff of other departments are very satisfied with this system. The Board continues to work in conjunction with Department of Information & Telecommunications Technology (DOITT).

Phone Bank

866-VOTE-NYC continues to be a great success since its inception and continues to aid hundreds of thousands of callers.

Peak calls arrive a few weeks prior to an Election and most importantly on Election Day and in the following few weeks afterward. When nearing an upcoming election, the phone bank employs additional staff who speaks several languages (English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean). Questions regarding accessibility, registration, absentee applications are but just a few of the questions posed to Board's staff who are manning the phones. A poll site locator feature was added to give voters information thru the phone bank/IVR system. Due to extremely high volumes in the 2004 Election cycle, the Board worked closely with DOITT to upgrade and enhance the Phone Bank's capabilities. The 2006 Election cycle went smoothly.

Interactive Voice Response System

The Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) continues to be successful. The system is available 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. The public has direct access to certain data in all four languages.

Management Information System Department (MIS) Cont'd

Print Shop

The Print Shop produces regular weekly mail, Party Enrollment Books (all parties), street finders, National Change of Address (NCOA) notices and Counter copy. All were produced on schedule. The Print Shop produced/published as many times as it could in anticipation of the year's election cycles.

MIS and Print Shop staff held their usual meetings with Xerox Business Systems (XBS) representatives to discuss and plan the poll book printings for all the scheduled elections. Network monitoring and new systems have been developed.

Project Development

In 2006, the S-Elect Candidate Processing and Election Support System (CPESS) and the Poll Worker Resource Support System (PWRSS) applications entered the second full year where both were operational. The 2006 Primary, General and several Special Election Events were conducted successfully using the CPESS and PWRSS support information systems. These systems continued to be enhanced by improving operational features, reports and sub-applications most notably:

1. Candidate Financial Tracking Application
2. County Committee Enhancements
3. Enhanced Calendar Features
4. Enhancement to Office Holder Sub-Application
5. Additional CPESS and PWRSS Reports
6. Ballot Marketing Device Interface

Also, in 2006 initial development work was started for the redesign and integration under S-Elect of the Poll Site application. This major application will be implemented in 2007. In addition to development and application enhancements, the planning for the new server and IT infrastructure program was completed. The CPESS and PWRSS systems also were audited by Comptroller's Office and were found to meet all specifications and design objectives. Network Monitoring and new systems have been developed, as well.

General Elections Turnout

	Registered Voters	Voter Turnout	Percentage
1969 Mayor	3,026,745	2,458,203	81%
1970 Governor	3,046,373	2,290,020	75%
1971	3,068,015	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1972 President	3,067,749	2,267,237	73%
1973 Mayor	3,565,147	1,790,053	50%
1974 Governor	3,161,656	1,822,567	58%
1975	2,912,126	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1976 President	2,720,105	2,143,345	79%
1977 Mayor	2,887,530	1,486,536	51%
1978 Governor	2,714,331	1,526,574	56%
1979	2,237,193	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1980 President	2,525,464	2,013,164	80%
1981 Mayor	2,345,001	1,305,368	56%
1982 Governor	2,544,394	1,685,956	66%
1983	2,489,526	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1984 President	3,014,459	2,340,181	78%
1985 Mayor	2,842,517	1,170,904	41%
1986 Governor	2,614,470	1,288,842	49%
1987	2,514,605	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1988 President	3,017,013	2,126,418	70%
1989 Mayor	3,183,741	1,899,845	60%
1990 Governor	3,052,259	1,159,134	38%
1991	2,962,958	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1992 President	3,360,568	2,211,473	66%
1993 Mayor	3,301,683	1,898,437	57%
1994 Governor	3,246,464	1,576,160	48%
1995	3,151,812	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
1996 President	3,532,348	2,028,013	57%
1997 Mayor	3,514,974	1,409,347	40%
1998 Governor	3,415,858	1,537,010	45%
1999	3,426,017	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
2000 President	3,672,265	2,282,944	62%
2001 Mayor	3,715,022	1,520,443	41%
2002 Governor	3,832,437	1,415,095	37%
2003	3,667,266	Non-citywide	Non-citywide
2004 President	4,002,497	2,459,652	61%
2005 Mayor	3,944,831	1,315,360	33%
2006 Governor	3,799,353	1,244,874	33%
2007	3856342	Non-citywide	Non-citywide

Active Registration Totals by County

Totals as of: 10/31/2007

County	Democratic	Republican	Independence	Conservative	Working Families	Other	Blank	Total
New York	627752	98756	22655	1822	1614	2645	161418	916662
Bronx	447830	44727	10849	3171	2271	425	84563	593836
Kings	825392	114302	21955	4331	3939	3002	195564	1168485
Queens	593965	133011	19156	5875	2522	1455	181600	937584
Richmond	106974	73662	6107	3977	850	330	47875	239775
City Wide	2601913	464458	80722	19176	11196	7857	671020	3856342



CREDITS

**COMPILED AND EDITED BY
COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT COMMITTEE**

COMM. GREGORY C. SOUMAS

COMM. ANTHONY COMO

COMM. JAMES J. SAMPAL

COMM. JUAN CARLOS POLANCO

VALERIE VAZQUEZ-RIVERA
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GRAPHIC ARTS

ELEANOR GUERRIERI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Prepared Under The Direction of the
Commissioners of Elections

Board of Elections in The City of New York
Executive Office, 32 Broadway, New York, NY 10004-1609
www.vote.nyc.ny.us
866-VOTE-NYC

Anthony Como, President
James J. Sampel, Secretary

Julie Dent
Nero Graham, Jr.
Terrence C. O'Connor
Juan Carlos J.C. Polanco

Nancy Mottola-Schacher
Gregory C. Soumas
Frederic M. Umame
Maryann Yennella