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Deputy



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## Monroe County Board of Elections

### NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 30, 2020**

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### **Absentee Ballot Counting Starts July 1<sup>st</sup>**

ROCHESTER, New York – Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> marked the final day of in-person voting and the postmark deadline for absentee voting. Per Election Law absentee ballots cannot be counted on election day. Absentee Ballots were made available for review for candidates on today prior to opening on July 1<sup>st</sup> while ensuring that space and social distancing constraints in the office.

Counting absentee ballots is a manual process where the Board has assigned bi-partisan teams to open ballots for all three elections where candidates and the public is able to view this process starting at 9 am. Every employee in the Board of Elections is supporting one candidate or another and is a member of a designated party. If the Board was to remove every employee who supported a particular candidate, there would be no one to count the ballots. Campaigns will be able to designate someone to observe and object if they think a ballot is being eliminated unfairly.

The Board has complete confidence in the integrity of the staff who will be counting absentee ballots. This office and all the employees are here to protect the integrity of this process and ensure that every vote is counted.

Currently the Board has the following absentee ballots to count that were received as of June 27th :

Election	Number of Ballots Received	Number of Ballots Sent	
Presidential Primary	37,139	59,902	65.6%
Primary (Local/State. Federal)	39,299	55,350	67.2%
Special Election	2,036	2,861	71.2%

Official results and the certification of this election will not occur until every ballot is counted which is projected to be sometime during the second week of July.

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