



Jon Husted Ohio Secretary of State

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DIRECTIVE 2016-21

August 5, 2016

To: All County Boards of Elections
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Updated Election Official Manual and Related Directives

BACKGROUND

Consistent with our goal of continuing to provide clear and uniform instructions for all boards of elections, and in preparation for the 2016 Presidential Election, we are today issuing replacement permanent Directives for existing, individual chapters of the Ohio [Election Official Manual \(EOM\)](#). These chapters were previously published as draft Directives on the Secretary of State's website and available for public comment.¹

As such, the previous Directives that constituted these chapters are hereby rescinded. All Directives no longer in effect will be archived on the Secretary of State's website as required by Ohio law.²

INSTRUCTIONS

The following updated Directives, and the corresponding chapter of the [EOM](#), are hereby issued and in full, immediate effect:

Directive 2016-22	Chapter 4	Ballots
Directive 2016-23	Chapter 7	Election Day Voting
Directive 2016-24	Chapter 9	Post Election Activities
Directive 2016-25	Chapter 11	Petitions
Directive 2016-26	Chapter 13	Political Parties
Directive 2016-27	Chapter 14	Statewide Initiative and Referendum

Boards of elections' members, directors, deputy directors, and clerks are strongly encouraged to bookmark the [EOM](#) in the web browser that each person most frequently accesses and use it on a regular, if not daily, basis as an important election administration resource. It is designed for ease of use as an electronic document that contains links to the relevant supporting documentation (e.g., statutes, court decisions, etc.). Because it is an electronic document that can be updated, it is less likely to become an outdated resource as compared to a printed hardcopy.

¹ R.C. 3501.053(A).

² R.C. 3501.053(B).

The [EOM](#) is available at:

http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/Upload/elections/directives/2016/Dir2016-21_EOM_2016-08.pdf

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, or any of the EOM-related Directives, please call the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jon Husted". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jon Husted