



DIRECTIVE 2021-01

February 3, 2021

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

Re: Updated Election Official Manual and Related Directives

BACKGROUND

Consistent with our goals of continuing to provide clear and uniform instructions for all boards of elections and continual improvement in election administration, I am issuing replacement permanent Directives for seven existing chapters of the Ohio Election Official Manual (“EOM”). These chapters were previously published as draft Directives on the Secretary of State’s website and were available for public comment.¹

The previous Directives that constitute these seven chapters are hereby rescinded. All Directives no longer in effect are archived on the Secretary of State’s website.²

INSTRUCTIONS

The following updated permanent Directives, and the corresponding chapters of the EOM, are hereby issued and take immediate effect:

<u>Directive 2021-02</u>	Chapter 2	Election Administration
<u>Directive 2021-03</u>	Chapter 3	Voter Registration
<u>Directive 2021-04</u>	Chapter 4	Ballots
<u>Directive 2021-05</u>	Chapter 5	Absentee Voting
<u>Directive 2021-06</u>	Chapter 6	Provisional Voting
<u>Directive 2021-07</u>	Chapter 7	Election Day Voting
<u>Directive 2021-08</u>	Chapter 12	Candidates

All boards of elections’ members, directors, deputy directors, and staff are strongly encouraged to review the new Directives and bookmark the EOM in their web browsers so that each person may easily access and use it on a regular basis. With links to relevant supporting documentation (e.g., statutes, court decisions, etc.) and regular updates, the electronic format of the EOM is designed for ease of use and is less likely to become an outdated resource as compared

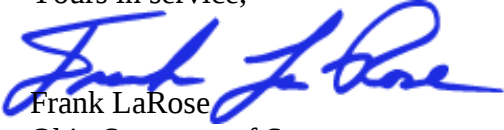
¹ [R.C. 3501.053\(A\).](#)

² [R.C. 3501.053\(B\).](#)

to a printed hardcopy. The EOM is available at: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/rules/>.

If you have any questions concerning this Directive or the EOM, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel at (614) 728-8789.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank LaRose", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State