DIRECTIVE 2019-25
December 18, 2019

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The previous Directives that constitute these eight chapters are hereby rescinded. All Directives no longer in effect are archived on the Secretary of State’s website.²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

- **Directive 2019-26** Chapter 2 Election Administration
- **Directive 2019-27** Chapter 4 Ballots
- **Directive 2019-28** Chapter 5 Absentee Voting
- **Directive 2019-29** Chapter 6 Provisional Voting
- **Directive 2019-30** Chapter 9 Post-Election Activities
- **Directive 2019-31** Chapter 10 Voting Systems
- **Directive 2019-32** Chapter 12 Candidates
- **Directive 2019-33** Chapter 15 Miscellaneous Duties

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

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¹ R.C. 3501.053(A).
² R.C. 3501.053(B).
the EOM is designed for ease of use and is less likely to become an outdated resource as compared to a printed hardcopy.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 any EOM-related Directives, please contact the Secretary of State’s elections counsel at (614) 728-8789.

Yours in service,

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State