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MAY 3, 1988 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The District holds its only Spring primary on the first Tuesday in May of each presidential election year. This election differs from other D.C. elections because the political parties play a direct role in defining the ballot, which includes contests for presidential preference, party convention delegates, and various other party offices. The only public office on the primary ballot in May is the District's Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Because the District has a **closed party primary system**, only voters registered with a political party qualified to conduct a primary are eligible to vote their party's ballot in the May election. **Changes of party affiliation may not be made after April 4, 1988 for this election.**

By law, the Board of Elections conducts the elections for party offices at the request of the Democratic and Republican parties. Each party must file with the Board a formal plan for the election, defining the contests on the ballot, the number of seats to be filled, and other particulars. Because each party submits its own separate plan for the election, the Democratic and Republican ballots can be very different.

THE DEMOCRATIC VOTER'S BALLOT

The following contests will appear on the ballot:

1. **Presidential Preference Primary**—Registered Democrats vote for the candidate they prefer to receive the Democratic Party's nomination for President.
2. **Delegates to the Democratic National Convention**—After choosing a presidential candidate, each registered Democrat will vote to select a group of convention delegates pledged to that presidential candidate. The party plan provides for a total of eleven delegates and three alternates to be selected as follows:

Congressional District I—Democrats in Wards 1, 2, 6, and 8—will select five delegates and one alternate. Voters cast ballots for three men and three women.

Congressional District II—Democrats in Wards 3, 4, 5, and 7—will select six delegates and two alternates. Voters cast ballots for four men and four women.

Apportionment of Delegates—Under the party's plan for "proportional representation", the number of delegates awarded to each presidential candidate will be determined by the party, based on the percentage of the total vote for president received by each candidate. The Democratic State Committee will apply party rules to determine which delegates, from among the highest vote getters, will fill the slots awarded to their presidential candidate.

3. **D.C. Delegate to the House of Representatives**—Democrats vote for their party's nominee for this office, to appear on the November 8th General Election ballot.
4. **Democratic National Committee**—Registered Democrats also cast ballots for the following national party offices:
 - One National Committeeman
 - One Alternate National Committeeman
 - One National Committeewoman
 - One Alternate National Committeewoman
5. **Democratic State Committee**—Registered Democrats will elect 44 members to the local party committee as follows:
 - Six At-Large Committeemen
 - Six At-Large Committeewomen
 - Sixteen Ward Committeemen
 - Sixteen Ward Committee women
 - (two from each of the 8 wards)
 - (two from each of the 8 wards)

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1988 VOTER'S GUIDE TO D.C. ELECTIONS

MAY 3, 1988 — PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY (Continued)

THE REPUBLICAN VOTER'S BALLOT

The following contests will appear on the ballot:

1. **Presidential Preference**—Registered Republicans vote for the candidate they prefer to receive the Republican Party's nomination for President.

Republicans will not vote directly for delegates or alternates to the Republican National Convention. However, the names of the delegates committed to each presidential candidate will be listed on the ballot for informational purposes.

Under the "winner take all" provision of the Republican Plan, the presidential candidate receiving the highest number of votes will send all of his or her delegates/alternates to the convention.

2. **D.C. Delegate to the House of Representatives**—Republicans vote for their party's nominee for this office, to appear on the November 8th General Election ballot.
3. **Republican National Committee**—Republican voters cast ballots for the following national party offices:
 - One National Committeeman
 - One National Committeewoman
4. **D.C. Republican Committee**—Republicans will also elect 80 members to the party committee as follows:
 - 48 At-Large Members, elected citywide
 - 32 Ward Members, elected by the Republican voters in each ward. The number of seats is based on the size of the ward's Republican registration.
 - Ward 1—Three Members
 - Ward 2—Six Members
 - Ward 3—Thirteen Members
 - Ward 4—Two Members
 - Ward 5—Two Members
 - Ward 6—Three Members
 - Ward 7—Two Members
 - Ward 8—One Member

THE D.C. STATEHOOD VOTER'S BALLOT

The following contest will appear on the ballot:

1. **Delegate to the House of Representatives**—Registered D.C. Statehood Party Members will select their party's nominee for this office, to appear on the November 8th General Election ballot. This is the only election on the ballot for Statehood voters on May 3, 1988.

Registration Deadline: Voter registration for the May 3, 1988 Primary closes **April 4, 1988**. Persons may register to vote by mail in the District; forms are available at all D.C. public libraries, fire houses, and police stations, or by calling **727-2525**.

Absentee Voting Dates: To vote an absentee ballot **by mail**, your written request must reach the Board no later than **April 26, 1988**; you may vote absentee **in person** at the Board's office from **April 18 through May 2, 1988**. For more information, call **727-2525**.

1988 VOTER'S GUIDE TO D.C. ELECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 13, 1988—DISTRICT COUNCIL PRIMARY

ON THE BALLOT: Democratic, Republican, and D.C. Statehood party nominations for the following offices:

- At-Large Member of the D.C. Council
- Ward 2 Member of the D.C. Council
- Ward 4 Member of the D.C. Council
- Ward 7 Member of the D.C. Council
- Ward 8 Member of the D.C. Council

WHO MAY VOTE: Only voters registered with the Democratic, Republican, or D.C. Statehood parties may vote for party nominations to the Council.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS are held to nominate "major" party candidates for partisan public offices that will be filled at the General Election. Three parties—Democratic, Republican, and D.C. Statehood—are presently qualified to hold primary elections for public offices in the District.

CANDIDATES qualify to appear on their party's Primary Election ballot by filing with the Board of Elections a nominating petition signed by D.C. voters who are registered as members of the party. Winners of the party primary contests will appear on the General Election ballot along with any independent or minor party candidates who qualify separately.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL is comprised of thirteen elected Councilmembers, who serve four-year terms. One Councilmember is elected to represent each of the District's eight election wards, by the voters residing within that ward. Four At-Large Councilmembers and the Chairman of the Council are elected by voters citywide.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 15, 1988

ABSENTEE VOTING DATES: To vote an absentee ballot **by mail**, your written request must reach the Board no later than September 6, 1988; you may vote absentee **in person** at the Board's office from August 29 through September 12, 1988.

NOVEMBER 8, 1988—PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

ON THE BALLOT:

- President and Vice President of the United States
- Delegate to the House of Representatives
- Two At-Large Members of the D.C. Council
- Members of the D.C. Council from Wards 2, 4, 7, and 8
- Two At-Large Members of the Board of Education
- Ward 3 Member of the Board of Education
- 323 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners

WHO MAY VOTE: All registered D.C. voters, regardless of party affiliation.

GENERAL ELECTIONS are held to elect public officials from among major party, independent, and minor party candidates.

CANDIDATES qualify to be placed on the General Election ballot either by winning a "major" party's nomination in the Primary Election or by filing a "direct access" nominating petition as an independent or minor party candidate. Non-partisan public offices are also filled at General Elections. These include Members of the D.C. Board of Education and Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. There are no party primary elections for nonpartisan offices; candidates for these offices file nominating petitions signed by registered D.C. voters, regardless of party affiliation, to qualify for the General Election.

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS (ANC's) were established by the Home Rule Charter to provide a channel for citizen comment on proposals affecting residents and their neighborhoods. ANC Commissioners serve 2-year terms as unsalaried, non-partisan elected officials who represent the 323 individual **Single Member District (SMD)** neighborhood communities within the city's 37 ANC areas.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 11, 1988

ABSENTEE VOTING DATES: To vote an absentee ballot **by mail**, your written request must reach the Board no later than November 1, 1988; you may vote absentee **in person** at the Board's office from October 24 through November 7, 1988.

Initiative or Referendum Measures, the two means for District voters to change the law directly, may also be included on the ballot at any D.C. election if these Measures should qualify for the ballot. An Initiative proposes new legislation by the voters; a Referendum rejects all or part of legislation passed by the D.C. Council. On Election Day, a "Summary Statement" of the Initiative or Referendum Measure appears on the ballot, and voters cast their ballot either "FOR" or "AGAINST" the Measure as a whole.

1988 VOTER'S GUIDE TO D.C. ELECTIONS

Voting in Your Polling Place on Election Day

STEP 1:

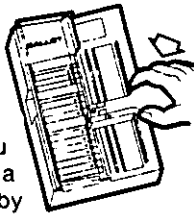
Go to the precinct polling place listed on your voter registration card and sign your name on the computer listing of registered voters. A pollworker will issue your ballot(s) in a plastic holder and direct you to a voting booth.

STEP 3:

After voting both sides of each ballot card, check carefully for errors and to ensure that you have not voted for more than the number of candidates to be elected in each contest. If you make a mistake, change your mind, or damage your ballot, just request a replacement from the ballot clerk.

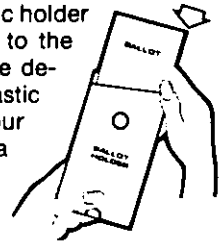
STEP 2:

To vote, slide the ballot into the punching device. Then, line up the punch with your choice in each contest and press the lever carefully. The machine will punch a hole by the name of the candidate you have selected. You may vote for a candidate not listed on the ballot by writing-in the candidate's name on the blank line provided and punching that voting position.



STEP 4:

Replace your ballot(s) in the plastic holder (stubs sticking out) and carry it to the Ballot Box Clerk, where it will be deposited into the ballot box. The plastic holder protects the privacy of your vote, and ensures your right to a secret ballot.



VOTER ASSISTANCE

Any voter who needs **assistance in voting** because of disability, inability to read, poor vision, etc. may request help from a polling place official or from any person of the voter's choice. **Demonstration voting booths** are set up at each D.C. polling place for voters who have questions about operating the voting device. **Curbside voting** is also available for senior citizens and handicapped persons who are unable to enter the polling site.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Voters who are unable to go to the polls may request an absentee ballot before Election Day. The absentee ballot may be cast by mail, following a written request, or in-person at the Board's office. For dates and deadlines, see the "Voter's Guide" for each election.

SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

The Board of Elections has an active program to make registration and voting more accessible to senior citizens and handicapped persons. In addition to provisions for absentee and curbside voting, approximately ninety percent of the District's polling places are now barrier-free. All voting polls have wheelchair accessible voting booths, designated handicapped parking, magnifying glasses for the vision impaired, and poster-size enlargements of the ballot. For more information on specific services, call the Board at 727-2525.



DOES ANYONE YOU KNOW NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

District of Columbia Residents:

Call **727-2525** Twenty-four Hours a Day
To Request a Voter Registration Application by Mail
(Applications are also available at all D.C. libraries,
fire houses, and police stations)