Date Printed: 06/16/2009

JTS Box Number: IFES_77

Tab Number: 34

Document Title: Facts for Citizens 1987-1988

Document Date: 1987-1988

Document Country: United States --

District of Columbia

Document Language: English

IFES ID: CE02615



District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics

The D. C. Board of Elections and Ethics has published this brochure with assistance from the D.C. League of Women Voters to provide residents of the District of Columbia with a guide to D.C. government—its structure, its elected officials, and its election system.

For additional copies of this publication or for other voter information, please call the Board of Elections at 727-2525 (TDD: 639-8916).

Material Informativo en Español

La Junta de Elecciones publica material informativo para el votante en Español. Estos materiales pueden obtenerse llamando a la oficina de la Junta.

NATIONAL OFFICIALS

The 23rd amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave District of Columbia residents the right to vote for President and Vice President of the United States. The 1964 General Election was the first opportunity District residents had to exercise this right.

President: Ronald Reagan (R)
The White House
Washington, DC 20050
456-7639 4-year term, exp. 1989

Vice President: George Bush (R)
The White House
Washington, DC 20050
456-7635 4-year term, exp. 1989

In 1970 the Congress granted the District a non-voting Delegate to the House of Representatives. The Delegate does not have a vote on the floor of the House but may vote in the committee on which he or she serves.

Delegate to the House of Representatives:

Walter E. Fauntroy (D)
Room 2135
Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC
225-8050 2-year term, exp. 1988

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In 1975 Congress granted the District limited home rule. While much local authority is exercised by the Mayor and District Council, Congress has retained budget control and certain other authorities which are the responsibilities of the committees listed below.

Senate Committees:

Appropriations Committee, Subcomittee for the District of Columbia (224-3471)

Tom Harkin (D., IA) Chairman Frank Lautenberg (D., NJ) Harry Reed (D., NV) Don Nichles (R., OK) Charles Grassley (R., IA)

Governmental Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on Governmental Efficiency and the District of Columbia (224-4161)

Jim Sasser (D., TN) Chairman Carl Levin (D., MI) George J. Mitchell (D., ME) William Cohen (R., ME)

Committees of the House of Representatives:

District of Columbia Committee (225-4457)

Ronald V. Dellums (D., CA) Chairman Walter E. Fauntroy (D., DC)
Mervyn M. Dymally (D., CA)
William H. Gray III (D., PA)
Romano L. Mazzoli (D., KY)
Fortney H. (Pete) Stark (D., CA)
Alan D. Wheat (D., MO)
Thomas J. Biley, Jr., (R., VA)
Larry Combest (R., TX.)
Stanford E. (Stan) Parris (R., VA)
Lynn Martin (R., IL)

Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee for the District of Columbia (225-5338)

Julian C. Dixon (D., CA) Chairman Les Aucoin (D., OR) William H. Natcher (D., KY) Steny Hoyer (D., MD) Martin Sabo (D., MN) Louis Stokes (D., OH) Lawrence Coughlin (R., PA) S. William Green (R., NY) Ralph Regula (R., OH)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT

Under the Home Rule Act of 1975, the District is governed by an elected Mayor and thirteen member Council. All have four year terms.

The Mayor and Council have their offices in the District Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20004.

MAYOR: Term Expires
Marion Barry, Jr. (D) 727-6319 Jan. '91

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

724-8176	Jan. '91					
AT-LARGE MEMBERS:						
724-8013	Jan. '89					
724-8175	Jan. '91					
724-8045	Jan. '89					
724-8072	Jan. '91					
Hilda Mason (Sthd) 724-8072 Jan. '91						
WARD MEMBERS:						
724-8179	Jan. '91					
724-8058	Jan. '89					
724-8021	Jan. '91					
724-8052	Jan. '89					
724-8028	Jan. '91					
724-8064	Jan. '91					
724-8068	Jan. '89					
724-8062	Jan. '89					
	724-8013 724-8175 724-8045 724-8072 724-8179 724-8058 724-8052 724-8052 724-8064 724-8068					

The Council meets in legislative session on alternate Tuesdays in the Council Chamber, Room 500, District Building. Meetings are held at 10 a.m., except for every fourth legislative session, which is at 6:30 p.m. The Secretary of the Council provides information concerning hearing dates on legislative proposals. That number is 724-8080.

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

Thirty-seven Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, each functioning independently in its own neighborhood, provide a line of communication between residents and the D.C. government on topics such as streets, zoning, licenses, social services, safety, sanitation, recreation and education. For ANC information, call:

Office of Community Services: 939-8750

ANC	Phone	ANC	Phone	ANC	Phone
1 A	232-0175	3E	244-0800	7A	399-8051
1B	387-6830	3F	362-6120	7B	584-3400
lC	332-2630	3G	363-5803	7C	398-5101
lD	332-2394	4A	291-9341	7D	399-1036
lΕ	462-3595	4B	726-7292	7E	582-6360
2A	659-0011	4C	723-6670	7F	584-4979
2B	332-1088	4D	829-3614	8A	563-5500
2C	234-8400	5A	635-6563	8B	889-9745
2D	554-1795	5B	397-3043	8C	562-7951
$2\dot{\mathbf{E}}$	337-4753	5C	832-1965	8D	562-0191
3B	388-2969	6A	544-3637	8E	562-7951
3C	232-2232	6B	543-3344		
3D	363-4130	6C	889-6600		

COMMITTEES OF THE D.C. COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Chairperson: David A. Clarke

Members: All members of the Council

Matters referred to this committee include: the annual budget, land use, election district boundries, council ad-

ministration, legislative scheduling.

CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Chairperson: John Ray

Members: Nathanson, Wilson, Smith, Jarvis

Matters referred to this committee include: consumer affairs; and regulation of occupational, professional, commercial, real estate and housing activities.

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Chairperson: Hilda H.M. Mason

Members: Thomas, Winter, Crawford, Schwartz

Matters referred to this committee include: issues relating to the District's education system and public library.

FINANCE AND REVENUE

Chairperson: John A. Wilson

Members: Mason, Kane, Schwartz, Crawford

Matters referred to this committee include: taxation, the financing of the District's public debt, and the D.C. Lottery.

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Chairperson: Betty Ann Kane

Members: Schwartz, Winter, Ray, Jarvis

Matters referred to this committee include: elections, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, general administration and services, and cable television.

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson: Charlene Drew Jarvis Members: Kane, Rolark, Smith, Wilson

Matters referred to this committee include: housing and neighborhood improvement, banking, and employment and

economic development.

HUMAN SERVICES

Chairperson: H.R. Crawford

Members: Ray, Rolark, Thomas, Wilson

Matters referred to this committee include: social services,

cultural activities, and concerns of the aging.

JUDICIARY

Chairperson: Wilhelmina Rolark

Members: Crawford, Ray, Mason, Nathanson

Matters referred to this committee include: judicial procedures, administrative and criminal law, police protection,

corrections, and fire prevention.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Chairperson: Frank Smith, Jr.

Members: Rolark, Nathanson, Thomas, Winter

Matters referred to this committee include: public utilities,

recreation and human rights.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chairperson: Nadine P. Winter

Members: Kane, Smith, Jarvis, Mason

Matters referred to this committee include: public transportation, street maintenance, motor vehicles, public space,

and water and sewage treatment.

EDUCATION AND COURTS

The District's public school system functions through an elected independent Board of Education. The Board develops policy for the overall education program in the District and hires the superintendent for a 3-year term. The eleven members are elected on a non-partisan basis; eight represent the wards; and three are elected at-large.

The Mayor and the District Council set the maximum amount of the school system's budget, which is funded out of general revenues. The Board of Education determines the use of the funds within the amount allocated.

D.C. BOARD OF EDUCATION:

415 12th St., NW 724-4044

Superintendent of Schools: Floretta Dukes McKenzie 724-4222

AT-LARGE MEMBERS:

David Eaton
Eugene Kinlow
Phyllis Young

WARD MEMBERS:

Ward 1 Wilma Harvey

Ward 2 R. David Hall (President)

Ward 3 Wanda Washburn

Ward 4 Linda Cropp (Vice President)

Ward 5 Bettie G. Benjamin

Ward 6 Bob Boyd

Ward 7 Nathaniel Bush

Ward 8 R. Calvin Lockridge

COURTS .

500 Indiana Ave., NW 879-1010 (except as noted)

Judges of both the Superior Court and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals are appointed by the President, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate for 15-year terms. Chief Judges are appointed from among the Associate Judges for 4-year terms.

Executive Office, District of Columbia Courts: Executive Officer, Larry P. Polansky 879-1700

District of Columbia Court of Appeals: Chief Judge: William Pryor 879-2771 8 Associate Judges

Clerk of Court: Alan I. Herman 879-2720

Public Information: 879-2701

Superior Court of the District of Columbia:

Chief Judge: Fred B. Ugast

50 Associate Judges

Public Information 879-1010

Superior Court Operations: Clerk of the Court 879-1400

Civil Division: 879-1133

Landlord & Tenant Branch: 879-1152

Small Claims Branch: 879-1037 Criminal Division: 879-1374

Family Divison: 879-1416

Mental Health Commission 879-1328

Social Service (Probation) 409 E. St., NW 879-1900

Register of Wills-Probate Division 879-1434

Tax Division 879-1737 Juror Officer 879-1605

Marriage Bureau, Bldg. A, 515 5th St., NW 879-2835

D.C. Public Defender Service 628-1200 U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia

Joseph diGenova 633-1706

Corporation Counsel of the District of Columbia:

Frederick D. Cooke, Jr. (Acting) 727-6248

VOTER INFORMATION

Board of Elections and Ethics Room 4, District Building 1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004 727-2525 TDD:639-8916

Voter Registration Requirements

To register to vote in the District, a person must be:

- 1. A citizen of the United States
- 2. A resident of the District of Columbia
- 3. 18 years old by the date of the next election
- 4. Not incarcerated for conviction of a felony, and
- 5. Not adjudged mentally incompetent by a court

D.C. residents may register to vote by completing a Mail Registration Application (MRA). MRA's may be obtained from any public library, fire house, or police station. Applications may also be obtained through the mail by calling the Board's office on 727-2525. Residents must register at least 30 days prior to an election in order to be eligible to vote that election.

Maintaining a Voter Registration

Voter registration in the District is permanent if the voter:

- Notifies the Board of Elections within 30 days of any change of address, and
- Votes at least once in any four (4) consecutive calendar years.

Party Affiliation

Voters may register with a political party affiliation, or they may register as "independents" by declining to designate a party affiliation on the registration form. Under the District's "Closed Primary" system, only voters affiliated with a political party qualified to conduct a Primary (Democratic, Republican, or DC Statehood) may vote in that party's Primary Election. Voters who are not affiliated with a political party (independents) and voters who are affiliated with a party not qualified to conduct a primary election may vote only in General and Special Elections, and on Initiative or Referendum Measures.

Changes in party affiliation must be signed by the voter and received by the Board no later than 30 days prior to an election in order to be effective for that election

Elderly & Handicapped Services

Through the Barrier Removal Construction Program, the Board has been overseeing the installation of curb cuts and building ramps at polling places throughout the District. If a voter's assigned poll location has not been made accessible under the Barrier Removal Program, the voter may request reassignment to a precinct that is accessible. The following services also exist to assist senior citizens and handicapped persons in the exercise of their franchise. For more information, call the Board at 727-2525.

- 1. Curbside Voting
- 2. Absentee voting
- 3. Handicapped Parking
- 4. Wheelchair Accessible Voting Booths
- 5. Large Print Election Materials

Assistance in Voting

Any voter who requires assistance in casting his or her ballot may request help from a pollworker or any other person of the voter's choice.

Absentee Voting

Registered voters who cannot go to the polls on Election Day may vote absentee in person by casting a ballot in Room 7 of the District Building, Monday through Saturday, beginning two (2) weeks before an election through the day before Election Day. If voters cannot appear at the Board's office, they may request that an absentee ballot be mailed to them by writing to the Board of Elections. The request must must be received no later than (7) days before the election and must contain:

- 1. Voter's Name
- 2. Address on the voter's registration
- 3. Address to which ballot is to be mailed
- 4. Reason for voting absentee
- 5. Voter's signature

Voter Education Program Services

The Board publishes a variety of informational materials on the election process, provides speakers to community groups, supports voter registration drives and has developed a series of educational programs for use in the classroom. Also available are maps of the city's Election Districts, as well as statistical data on voter registration and past elections. For more information, call 727-2525.

1987 - 1988 ELECTION SCHEDULE

PRIMARY ELECTIONS are held so that voters registered with a qualified political party may select their party's nominee to the general election for partisan offices. Because a primary is a party election, only voters registered with one of the parties qualified to conduct a primary in the District—Democratic, Republican, and D.C. Statehood—may vote in their party's primary. In this "closed primary" system, persons registered with no party affiliation or with a minor party are not eligible to vote in the party primaries.

GENERAL ELECTIONS are held to elect candidates to public offices. For partisan offices, nominees from the party primary elections appear on the ballot, along with any independent and minor party candidates. For nonpartisan offices (Board of Education and Advisory Neighborhood Commission seats), no primary election is held, and all candidates qualify directly for the General Election ballot without regard to party registration. All voters—regardless of party affiliation—are eligible to vote in General Elections.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM MEASURES, the two means for District voters to change the law directly, may also appear on a District 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.

NOVEMBER 3, 1987 BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL ELECTION

To be elected to the Board of Education:

One (1) At-Large Member

Ward 1 Member (5 year term)

Ward 4 Member (3 year term)

Ward 5 Member (5 year term)

Ward 6 Member (5 year term)

Ward 7 Member (3 year term)

Also on the ballot:

Initiative #25, the "District of Columbia Public School Support Initiative of 1986"

Initiative #28, the "District of Columbia Beverage Container Acceptance and Refund Act of 1986"

MAY 3, 1988 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

On the Ballot:

Democratic and Republican Presidential Preference Primaries

Democratic, Republican, and D.C. Statehood Primaries for Delegate to the House

Democratic National Convention Delegates

Democratic and Republican National Committee Members

D.C. Democratic State Committee Members

D.C. Republican Committee Members

SEPTEMBER 13, 1988 DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, AND D.C. STATEHOOD PRIMARIES FOR DISTRICT COUNCIL

To be nominated to the General Election Ballot:

Two (2) At-Large Members of the 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

NOVEMBER 8, 1988 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

To be elected:

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



D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Edward W. Norton Chairman

Valerie K. Burden Member

Emmett H. Fremaux, Jr.

Executive Director

Dr. Lenore Cole Alexander
Member

William H. Lewis General Counsel

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