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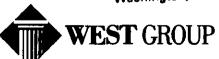
INCLUDING LAWS

through the

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PREFACE

These Cumulative Annual Pocket Parts and the Cumulative Annual Pamphlet for use with the main volumes of New Jersey Statutes Annotated contain laws of a general and permanent nature through Chapter 441, the final law of the 1999 Second Regular Session of the 208th Legislature.

The laws appear herein under their authorized classification, in conformity with the general plan and arrangement of the official Revised Statutes. New Jersey Statues Annotated and the Revised Statutes are identical as to text and classification. Footnotes in the text are supplied by the publisher.

The latest amendments to the laws are indicated by underlining additions and by printing deletions in strike-out type, unless the deletions are extensive, in which case a note following the text summarizes the deleted material.

The annotations from the decisions of the State and Federal courts construing the laws close with cases published as of February 11, 2000, reported in:

Atlantic Reporter, Second Series743 A.2d 605
New Jersey Reports 162 N.J. (part)
New Jersey Superior Court Reports 327 N.J.Super. (part)
Supreme Court Reporter 120 S.Ct. 865
United States Reports 521 U.S. (part)
Lawyers' Edition, Second Series 146 L.Ed.2d (part)
Federal Reporter, Third Series 199 F.3d 445
Federal Supplement, Second Series 76 F.Supp.2d 1382
Federal Rules Decisions 190 F.R.D. 221
Bankruptcy Reporter 243 B.R. 202
Federal Claims Reporter 45 Fed.Cl. 114
New Jersey Tax Court 18 N.J.Tax Ct. 214
Opinions of the Attorney General Atty.Gen.F.O. 1997, No. 1
Other Standard Reports

Library References to Key Number Digests and to Corpus Juris Secundum are included as a convenient aid to research.

Later laws and annotations will be cumulated in subsequent pocket parts and annotated pamphlets. For advance copies of laws enacted at subsequent sessions of the Legislature, see the New Jersey Session Law Service.

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ABBREVIATIONS

	American Bar Association Journal
A.D	Appellate Division, Superior Court
A.L.R	American Law Reports
A.L.R.2d	American Law Reports, Second Series
A.L.R.3d	American Law Reports, Third Series
A.L.R.4th	American Law Reports, Fourth Series
A.L.R.5th	American Law Reports, Fifth Series
A.L.R.Fed	American Law Reports, Federal
App	Appendix
Art	
A	Atlantic Reporter
A.2d	Atlantic Reporter, Second Series
Atty.Gen. F.O	Attorney General Formal Opinion
B.R	
Cert	
c	Chapter of Act
Ch	Chapter or Chancery Division,
	SuperiorCourt
C	Compilation number
C.S	Compiled Statutes
C.J.S	Corpus Juris Secundum
Cl	
Cl.Ct	Claims Court Reporter
Const	
Co	County Court
Com.Pl	Court of Common Pleas
	Criminal Judicial District Court
Crim.Just.Q.	Criminal Justice Quarterly
Dist.Ct	County District Court
Eff	Effective
Err. & App	Court of Errors and Appeals
Fed.Cas	
Fed.Cl	Federal Claims Reporter
F	Federal Reporter
	Federal Reporter, Second Series
F.3d	Federal Reporter, Third Series
F.R.D	Federal Rules Decisions
F.Supp	
	Formal Opinion of Attorney General
	Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court
⇐ (Key Number)	State Digest and other units of the American Digest System

ABBREVIATIONS

L.Ed. Lawyers' Edition L.Ed.2d Lawyers' Edition, Second Series Model Act Model Nonprofit Corporation Act (Revised 1964), prepared by the Committee on Corporate Laws (S tion of Corporation, Banking and Business Law) of the American B Association Mun. Municipal Court
Model Act
Model Act
Mun Municipal Court
mun municipal Coule
N.J.A.C New Jersey Administrative Code
N.J.A.R New Jersey Administrative Reports
N.J.Eq New Jersey Equity Reports
N.J.L.J New Jersey Law Journal
N.J.L New Jersey Law Reports
N.J.Law New Jersey Lawyer
N.J.Misc New Jersey Miscellaneous Reports
N.J New Jersey Reports
N.J.P New Jersey Practice
N.J.State Bar J New Jersey State Bar Journal
N.J.S New Jersey Statutes
N.J.S.A New Jersey Statutes Annotated
N.J.Super New Jersey Superior Court Reports
N.J.TaxCt New Jersey Tax Court Reports
No Number
Op.Atty.Gen Opinion of the Attorney General
Orph Orphans' Court
Par Paragraph
Pa.C.S.A Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Annotated
P.LPamphlet Laws
Prerog Prerogative Court
Prob Probate Part of Chancery Division,
Superior Court
Resentencing Panel, Superior Court
R.S.C.S Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement
R.S Revised Statutes
Rev Revision
R Rules of Court
R.R Rules of Court, 1953 Revision
Rutgers Computer Tech.L.J Rutgers Computer and Technology LawJournal
Rutgers L.J Rutgers Law Journal
Rutgers-Camden L.J Rutgers-Camden Law Journal
Rutgers L.Rev Rutgers Law Review
Sec Section of the Act
Seton Hall Const.L.J Seton Hall Constitutional Law Journal

ABBREVIATIONS

Seton Hall L.Rev	Seton Hall Law Review
Seton Hall Legis.J.	Seton Hall Legislative Journal
Sp.Session	Special Session
Subsec	Subsection .
Subd	Subdivision
Suppl	Supplement
S.Ct	
Sur	
U.L.A	
U.S	United States Reports
U.S.C.A	United States Code Annotated
Val	Validating Acts



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LIST OF TITLES NEW JERSEY REVISED STATUTES NEW JERSEY STATUTES ANNOTATED

- 1. Acts, Laws and Statutes.
- 2A. Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice.
- 2B. Court Organization and Civil Code.
- 2C. Code of Criminal Justice.
- 3B. Administration of Estates— Decedents and Others.
- 4. Agriculture and Domestic Animals.
- Amusements, Public Exhibitions and Meetings.
- 6. Aviation.
- 7. Bills, Notes and Checks. See also Title 12A, Commercial Transactions.
- 8A. Cemeteries.
- Children-Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts.
- 10. Civil Rights.
- 11A. Civil Service.
- 12. Commerce and Navigation.
- 12A. Commercial Transactions.
- 13. Conservation and Development-Parks and Reservations.
- 14A. Corporations, General.
- Corporations and Associations Not for Profit.
- 15A. Corporations, Nonprofit.
- 16. Corporations and Associations, Religious.
- 17. Corporations and Institutions for Finance and Insurance.
- 17B. Insurance.
- 18A. Education.
- 19. Elections.
- 20. Eminent Domain.
- 21. Explosives and Fireworks.
- 22A. Fees and Costs.
- Fish, Game and Wildlife.
- 24. Food and Drugs.
- 25. Frauds and Fraudulent Conveyances.
- 26. Health and Vital Statistics.
- 27. Highways.
- 28. Historic Memorials, Monuments and Sites.
- 29. Hotels.
- 30. Institutions and Agencies.
- 31. Interest and Usury.

- 32. Interstate and Port Authorities and Commissions.
- 33. Intoxicating Liquors.
- 34. Labor and Workmen's Compensation.
- 35. Legal Advertisements.
- 36. Legal Holidays.
- Marriages and Married Persons.
 - 38. Militia—Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.
 - 38A. Military and Veterans Law.
 - Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation.
 - 40, 40A. Municipalities and Counties.
 - 41. Oaths and Affidavits.
 - Partnerships and Partnership Associations.
 - 43. Pensions and Retirement and Unemployment Compensation.
 - 44. Poor.
 - 45. Professions and Occupations.
- 46. Property.
- 47. Public Records.
- 48. Public Utilities.
- 49. Sale of Securities.
- 50. Shellfish.
- 51. Standards, Weights, Measures and Containers.
- 52. State Government, Departments and Officers.
- 53. State Police.
- 54. Taxation.
- 54A. Gross Income Tax Act.
- 55. Tenement Houses and Public Housing.
- 56. Trade Names, Trade-Marks and Unfair Trade Practices.
- Warehousemen and Warehouse Receipts.
 Repealed, see Title 12A, Commercial Transactions.
- 58. Waters and Water Supply.
- Claims Against Public Entities.
- Appendix A. Emergency and Temporary Acts.

Acts Saved From Repeal. Validating Acts.

NEW JERSEY STATUTES ANNOTATED

TITLE 19

ELECTIONS

Subtitle

- Any Election.
 General Elections.
- 6. Registration of Voters.

SUBTITLE 1

ANY ELECTION

Chapter

- 7. Challengers.
- 9. Election Supplies.

CHAPTER 1

DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION

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19:1-1. Words and terms defined

Notes of Decisions

6. Political party

"Political party" is association of persons sponsoring ideas of government, or maintaining certain political principles or beliefs in public policies of government, and its purpose is to urge

adoption and execution of such principles in governmental affairs through officers of like beliefs. New Jersey Conservative Party, Inc. v. Farmer, 324 N.J.Super. 451, 735 A.2d 1189 (A.D.

CHAPTER 3

OFFICES AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

19:3-6. Form of public question; when question deemed approved; "legal voters" defined

Notes of Decisions

. 1. Clarity of language

Statement interpreting proposed constitutional amendment for the voters should always be infor-

mative and fair. Board of Chosen Freeholders of County of Morris v. State, 159 N.J. 565, 732 A.2d 1053 (1999).

CHAPTER 5

PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

19:5-1. Powers of and restrictions upon political parties; party columns on official ballot

Notes of Decisions

3. Ballots

All primary elections for general election, and not just those for general assembly, are to be considered in determining whether a political party has obtained 10% of votes required for party column on official ballot for general election. New Jersey Conservative Party, Inc. v. Farmer, 324 N.J.Super. 451, 735 A.2d 1189 (A.D. 1999).

Political party must qualify for party column on official ballot in general election by annually satisfying statutory requirement of 10% of votes; this means that in those years where there are no primary elections for general assembly, other elections are considered in determining political party status for party column. New Jersey Conservative Party, Inc. v. Farmer, 324 N.J.Super. 451, 735 A.2d 1189 (A.D.1999).

ARTICLE 2. MUNICIPAL, COUNTY AND STATE COMMITTEES

19:5-3. Membership and organization of county committees; vacancies; certification of unit of representation and number of election districts

Notes of Decisions

Conspiracy 10

mittee could only act through its officers, and could not conspire with itself. Farris v. County of Camden, D.N.J.1999, 61 F.Supp.2d 307.

10. Conspiracy

Chairman of New Jersey county political committee could not conspire with committee; com-

CHAPTER 7

CHALLENGERS

Section

- 19:7-1. Appointment by chairmen of committees.
- 19:7-3. Filing of appointments or applications.
- 19:7-4. Permits to challengers; revocation.
- 19:7-6.1. Number of challengers.

19:7-1. Appointment by chairmen of committees

a. The chairman of the county committee of any political party that has duly nominated any candidate for public office to be voted for at an election by all the voters within the county or any political division thereof greater than a single municipality, or where the election is within and for a single municipality only, or any subdivision thereof, then the chairman of the municipal committee of the political party making such nomination within and for such single municipality, or subdivision thereof, may appoint two challengers for each election district in his the chairman's county or municipality, as the case may be.

b. The chairman of the county committee of each political party may also: (1) appoint two challengers to serve and exercise the powers of challengers, in each election district in the county at any primary election; and (2) appoint additional challengers for any election equal in number to the number of municipalities in the county and such challengers may exercise their powers, as provided for in R.S.19:7-5, at the polling place of any election district in the county during the time an election occurs therein.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 27, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

19:7-3. Filing of appointments or applications

The appointment of or application for challengers shall be filed with the county board not later than the second Tuesday preceding any election. No person shall be appointed a challenger under this Title who is not a registered voter in the county in which the district is located in which such person is appointed to serve, and no appointed challenger shall serve in any district other than that to which appointed except for challengers appointed by the chairman of a county committee, pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection b. of R.S.19:7-1.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 28, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

19:7-4. Permits to challengers; revocation

The county board shall thereupon issue, under the hands of its members, to the persons named in such appointment papers, or application, permits for them to act as challengers for their respective parties or candidates or for or against a public question at the election district or election districts specified, as the case may be. Such permits shall be filed by the persons named therein with the district board or district boards named therein, as evidence of their authority to be present in the polling place, and they may be issued and revoked and others issued in their stead at any time up to and including the day of election. When a permit shall be revoked, the permit in the place thereof shall be issued upon the nomination of the same person or officer upon whose nomination the original permit was issued.

A challenger appointed pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection b. of R.S.19:7-1 shall be issued a county-wide permit that is to be presented to any district board within the county as evidence of the challenger's authority to be present at the polling place during an election. Upon leaving the polling place, such a challenger must reclaim the permit from the district board to gain entry to any other polling place in the county during the election.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 29, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

19:7-6.1. Number of challengers

Unless express permission be given by the district board, not more than 1 one challenger appointed for a party, candidate, or on a public question, shall be present at any one time in any polling place while serving and exercising the powers of a challenger and during the hours when the polls are open for voting. If the district board shall in any case give permission for more than 1 one challenger so appointed to be present at any one time in any polling place, it shall on the same grounds and on request permit a

Last additions in text indicated by underline; deletions by strikeouts

19:7–6.1 ELECTIONS

like number to be present on behalf of any opposing party, or on behalf of any other candidate for the same office, or on the other side of any public question.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any challengers appointed by the chairman of a county committee, pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection b. of R.S.19:7-1, except that no more than one such challenger shall be present at any time in a polling place while serving and exercising his or her power as a challenger during the hours when the polling place is open for voting.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 30, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

CHAPTER 9

ELECTION SUPPLIES

Section

19:9-2. Preparation of books, blank forms and other supplies.

19:9-2. Preparation of books, blank forms and other supplies

The Secretary of State Director of the Division of Elections shall prepare and distribute on or before April 1 in each year prior to the primary election for the general election and the general election the following such information and election supplies: pamphlets of the election laws and instructions; precinct returns; electors of President and Vice President; United States Senator; member of the House of Representatives; Governor; State Senator; General Assembly and county officers; public questions submitted to the voters of the entire State; self-addressed envelopes, plain and stamped, to each district; returns for the county board of canvassers for the above officers; primary return sheets as may be needed relative to election procedures for the ensuing year.

The county board of elections shall prepare and distribute on or before April 1 of each year, registration and voting instructions printed in at least 14-point type for conspicuous display at each polling place at any election.

All other books, ballots, envelopes and other blank forms which the county clerk is required to furnish under any other section of this Title, stationery and supplies for the primary election for the general election, the primary election for delegates and alternates to national conventions and the general election, shall be furnished, prepared and distributed by the clerks of the various counties; except that all books, blank forms, stationery and supplies, articles and equipment which may be deemed necessary to be furnished, used or issued by the county board or superintendent shall be furnished, used or issued, prepared and distributed by such county board or superintendent, as the case may be.

The county board in counties having a superintendent of elections shall furnish and deliver to the county clerk, the municipal clerks and the district boards in municipalities having more than one election districts. a map or description of the district lines of their respective election districts, together with the street and house numbers where possible in such election districts. In counties not having a superintendent of elections the municipal election shall furnish and deliver such map or description of district lines to the county clerk, the county board and the district board in municipalities having more than one election district and a list or map of all of the polling places within the county to assist any voter in identifying the correct location of the polling place at which the voter should vote if that voter erroneously reports to the municipal clerk or the wrong polling place.

Nothing in subtitle 2 of the Title, Municipalities and Counties (section <u>R.S.</u>40:16-1 et seq.), shall in anywise be construed to affect, restrict, or abridge the powers conferred on the county clerks, county boards or superintendents by this Title.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 1, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

SUBTITLE 2

GENERAL ELECTIONS

Chapter

12. Certificates and Notices.

CHAPTER 12

CERTIFICATES AND NOTICES

ARTICLE 2. OFFICIALS TO PUBLIC

Section

19:12-7. Newspaper notice of election days, registration and offices to be filled.

ARTICLE 2. OFFICIALS TO PUBLIC

19:12-7. Newspaper notice of election days, registration and offices to be filled

- a. The county board in each county shall cause to be published in a newspaper or newspapers which, singly or in combination, are of general circulation throughout the county, a notice containing the information specified in subsection b. hereof, except for such of the contents as may be omitted pursuant to subsection c. or d. hereof. Such notice shall be published once during the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the closing of the registration books for the primary election, once during the calendar week next preceding the week in which the primary election is held, once during the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the closing of the registration books for the general election, and once during the calendar week next preceding the week in which the general election is held.
 - b. Such notice shall set forth:
 - (1) For the primary election:
- (a) That a primary election for making nominations for the general election, for the selection of members of the county committees of each political party, and in each presidential year for the selection of delegates and alternates to national conventions of political parties, will be held on the day and between the hours and at the places provided for by or pursuant to this Title.
- (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a person may register, the procedure for the transfer of registration, and the date on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of registration.
- (c) The several State, county, municipal and party offices or positions to be filled, or for which nominations are to be made, at such primary election.
- (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i) the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii), if available, the accessibility of voter information to the deaf by means of a telecommunications device.
- (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.
- (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week next preceding the week in which the primary election is held, that a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the 29th day preceding the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election, (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to

19:12–7 ELECTIONS

vote in the primary election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county commissioner of registration or municipal clerk to determine the proper polling place location for the voter.

- (2) For the general election:
- (a) That a general election will be held on the day and between the hours and at the places provided for by or pursuant to this Title.
- (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a person may register;, the procedure for transfer of registration, and the date on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of registration.
- (c) The several State, county and municipal offices to be filled and, except as provided in section R.S.19:14-33 of this Title as to publication of notice of any Statewide proposition directed by the Legislature to be submitted to the people, the State, county and municipal public questions to be voted upon at such general election.
- (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i) the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii) the accessibility of voter information to the deaf by means of a telecommunications device.
- (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.
- (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week next preceding the week in which the general election is held, that a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the 29th day preceding the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election, (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the general election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county commissioner of registration or municipal clerk to determine the proper polling place location for the voter.
 - (3) For a school election:
 - (a) The day, time and place thereof,
 - (b) The offices, if any, to be filled at the election,
 - (c) The substance of any public question to be submitted to the voters thereat,
- (d) That a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the 29th day preceding the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election, (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the school election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the election,
- (e) That if the voter has any questions as to where to vote on the day of the election, the voter may contact the county commissioner of registration or municipal clerk to determine the proper polling place location for the voter; and
 - (f) Such other information as may be required by law.
- c. If such publication is made in more than one newspaper, it shall not be necessary to duplicate in the notice published in each such newspaper all the information required under this section, so long as:

(1) The municipal officers or party positions to be filled, or nominations made, or municipal public questions to be voted upon by the voters of any municipality, shall be set forth in at least one newspaper having general circulation in such municipality;

- (2) All offices to be filled, or nominations made therefor, or public questions to be voted upon, by the voters of the entire State or of the entire county shall be set forth in a newspaper or newspapers which, singly or in combination, have general circulation throughout the county;
- (3) Information relating to nominations and elections in each Legislative District comprised in whole or part in the county, shall be published in at least a newspaper or newspapers which singly or in combination, have general circulation in every municipality of the county which is comprised in such legislative district.
- d. Such part or parts of the original notices as published which pertain to day of registration or primary election which has occurred shall be eliminated from such notice in succeeding insertions.
- e. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, in a school election the county board shall give notice of each election not less than 10 days prior to the date fixed for the election, by posting at least seven copies of the notice, one on each schoolhouse in the district and the others at such public places therein as the board shall direct and causing a copy thereof to be published at least one, in at least one newspaper published in each municipality in the district and, if no newspaper is published in any such municipality or such a newspaper will not be published in time to publish the notice in accordance with this section, then, as to the municipality, in at least one newspaper published in the county or State and circulating in the municipality. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c. 232.)
- f. The cost of publishing the notices required by this section shall be paid by the respective counties, or for school elections, by the respective school district unless otherwise provided for by law.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 2, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

CHAPTER 13

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

ARTICLE 2. DIRECT NOMINATIONS BY PETITION

19:13-9. Filing petitions and acceptances; public inspection; transmit-

Notes of Decisions

1. Validity

Council of Alternative Political Parties v. Hooks, D.N.J.1998, 999 F.Supp. 607, [main volume] reversed 179 F.3d 64.

New Jersey statute requiring independent and alternative political party candidates seeking access to general election ballot to file nominating petitions by date of primary election did not impose unconstitutional burden on rights of voters and candidates to vote, associate for political purposes, and to equal protection of the laws; deadline was reasonable, nondiscriminatory regulation imposing minimal burden on rights of voters and alternative party candidates, and burden was outweighed by state's strong interests in treating all candidates equally, in voter education, and in limiting frivolous candidacies and

maintaining stable and efficient election process. Council of Alternative Political Parties v. Hooks, C.A.3 (N.J.)1999, 179 F.3d 64.

States have broad power to enact reasonable election codes that may, in practice, favor the traditional two-party system. Council of Alternative Political Parties v. Hooks, C.A.3 (N.J.)1999, 179 F.3d 64.

State was not required to proffer empirical evidence in support of interests served by statute requiring independent and alternative political party candidates seeking access to general election ballot to file nominating petitions as of date of primary election. Council of Alternative Political Parties v. Hooks, C.A.3 (N.J.)1999, 179 F.3d 64.

SUBTITLE 5

RECOUNTS AND CONTESTS—ANY ELECTION

CHAPTER 29

CONTEST OF NOMINATIONS OR ELECTIONS—ANY ELECTION

19:29-1. Grounds stated

Notes of Decisions

Purpose 26

5. Compliance with statute

The right to contest an election and the procedure thereof are strictly a matter of legislative determination, which must be followed. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

The burden of proof in an election contest lies upon the contestant to show that the true will of the electorate was thwarted upon one or several of the statutory grounds. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

6. Persons who may contest

Voter who was not allowed to vote in school board election because her registry page was inadvertently removed from voting book was "legal voter rejected," for purposes of election contest by that voter and by candidate who lost election by one vote; voter believed that poll workers instructed her to "call borough hall" in order to resolve problem, voter did so 4-6 times and received recorded message indicating borough hall was closed, voter then consulted telephone directory and found number for voting machine warehouse but did not call that number because she reasonably believed that doing so could not solve her problem, and voter also drove past borough half but concluded that it was closed. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super, 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

9. Malconduct, fraud or corruption-In general

The election laws have been created to deter fraud, safeguard the secrecy of the ballot, and preserve the enfranchisement of qualified voters. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super, 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

14. Rejection of votes

In order to prevail in an election contest on a claim of "rejected votes," the petitioner must present proofs by a preponderance of the credible evidence that otherwise qualified voters were denied the right to vote. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

In order to prevail in an election contest on a claim of "rejected votes," it is not necessary to show for whom the voters would have voted if they were permitted to do so; rather, what is critical to the claim is that the number of legal votes rejected would be sufficient to change the result. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

19. Voiding elections-In general

Where legal voter was improperly denied opportunity to vote in school board election that was decided by one vote, proper remedy was to hold new election, rather than to permit that voter to vote nunc pro tunc in order to save borough cost of new election; state legislature did not include right to vote nunc pro tunc as remedy for wrongfully rejected voter, and permitting voter to do so had potential to violate secrecy of her vote. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

26. Purpose

The fundamental purpose of an election contest is to ascertain the true will of the electorate. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (L.1998).

19:29-9. Form and effect of judgment

Notes of Decisions

2. Voiding or setting aside election

Where legal voter was improperly denied opportunity to vote in school board election that was decided by one vote, proper remedy was to hold new election, rather than to permit that voter to vote nune pro tunc in order to save borough cost of new election; state legislature did not include right to vote nune pro tune as remedy for wrongfully rejected voter, and permitting voter to do so had potential to violate secrecy of her vote. Kirk v. French, 324 N.J.Super. 548, 736 A.2d 546 (1.1998). ELECTIONS 19:31–6.11

SUBTITLE 6

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Chapter

31. Municipalities Having Permanent Registration.

CHAPTER 31

MUNICIPALITIES HAVING PERMANENT REGISTRATION

ARTICLE 2. REGISTRATION AND TRANSFERS

Section

19:31-6.11. Voter registration agency defined; declination forms; contents.

19:31-11. Change of residence notice.

19:31-16. Reports of death by health or vital statistics officers; records transferred to death file.

19:31-16.1. Neglecting or failing to file or accept appropriate death record information; criminal penalty.

19:31-16.2. State registrar of vital statistics to provide list of deaths.

ARTICLE 2. REGISTRATION AND TRANSFERS

19:31-6.11. Voter registration agency defined; declination forms; contents

a. As used in this section, "voter registration agency" means:

Any agency or office serving as a food stamp issuer, pursuant to P.L.1988, c. 79 (C.44:8-153 et seq.) and the "Food Stamp Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.);

Any agency or office providing or administering assistance under the "New Jersey Medical Assistance and Health Services Program," pursuant to P.L.1968, c. 413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) and 42 U.S.C. s.1395 et seq.;

Any agency or office distributing food pursuant to the special supplemental food program for women, infants and children (WIC), established pursuant to P.L.1987, c. 261 (C.26:1A-36.1 et seq.) and Pub.L. 95-267 (42 U.S.C. s.1786);

Any agency or office administering assistance under the "Aid to Families With Dependent Children Program," established pursuant to P.L.1959, c. 86 (C.44:10-1) and 42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq. Work First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c. 38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.);

Any public office of the Division of Developmental Disabilities, established pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1985, c. 145 (C.30:6D-24), in the Department of Human Services;

Any public office of the Office of Disability Services, established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1999, c. 91 (C.30:6E-3), in the Department of Human Services;

Any recruitment office of the Armed Forces of the United States, subject to any agreement between this State and the Secretary of Defense of the United States for the joint development and implementation, as provided under subsection (c) of section 7 of Pub.L.103-31 (42 U.S.C. s. 1973gg-6), of procedures for applying at those offices to register to vote;

Any office of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services of the New Jersey Department of Labor;

Any office of the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired of the New Jersey Department of Human Services;

Any county welfare agency or county board of social services established pursuant to the provisions of chapter 1 or chapter 4 of Title 44 of the Revised Statutes;

Last additions in text indicated by underline; deletions by strikeouts

19:31–6.11 ELECTIONS

The office of the commissioner of registration in the several counties of this State; and

Any office of the municipal clerk in the several municipalities of this State.

- b. With each voter registration form and instructions provided to the chief administrative officer at each voter registration agency under subsections e. and f. of section 16 of P.L.1974, c. 30 (C.19:31-6.4), the Secretary of State shall provide at the same time a declination form that includes:
- (1) the question: "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";
- (2) the statement: "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.";
- (3) boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would or would not like to register to vote, together with the statement "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.";
- (4) the statement: "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private.";
- (5) the statement: "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Secretary of State." (insert address and current telephone number); and
- (6) the statement: IF YOU DECLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME, YOUR DECISION WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL BE USED ONLY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION PURPOSES. IF YOU DO REGISTER TO VOTE, THE WAY IN WHICH YOU DO SO WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL BE USED ONLY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION PURPOSES.
- c. The Secretary of State shall cause to be prepared declination forms in the form provided for by subsection b. of this section in both the English and Spanish languages and shall provide such forms to the chief administrative officer of each voter registration agency which has an office in any county in which there is at least one election district in which bilingual sample ballots must be provided pursuant to R.S.19:14-21, R.S.19:49-4 or section 2 of P.L.1965, c. 29 (C.19:23-22.4).
- d. The Secretary of State shall adopt, pursuant to consultation with the chief administrative officers at voter registration agencies, regulations for the prompt return of the completed voter registration forms, but in no case shall the forms be returned later than the fifth day following the date on which the completed forms are received by the voter registration agencies.
- e. All registration forms received by the Secretary of State in the mail or forwarded to the Secretary of State by employees or agents of the voter registration agencies shall be forwarded to the commissioner of registration in the county of the registrant.
- f. Each completed declination form received by a voter registration agency shall be kept confidential for a period of at least two years. The Secretary of State shall determine, pursuant to consultation with the chief administrative officers at voter registration agencies, which office or agency shall retain the declination forms.

Amended by L.1999, c. 91, § 10, eff. May 3, 1999.

19:31-11. Change of residence notice

19:31-11. a. In all counties within the State, change of residence notices shall be made by a written request, signed by the registrant, forwarded to the commissioner by mail, and actually received by the commissioner, or by calling in person at the office of the commissioner or the municipal clerk. The commissioner shall provide change of residence notices in card form for the use of any registered voter moving to another address within the same election district or to another election district within the same county. Copies of these notices shall also be available at the office of the municipal clerk in each municipality. Each municipal clerk shall transmit daily to the commissioner all

ELECTIONS 19:31–16

the filled out change of residence notices that may be in the municipal clerk's office at the time. These notices shall be printed upon cards, shall contain a blank form showing where the applicant last resided and the address and exact location to which the applicant has moved and shall have a line for the applicant's signature, printed name and date of birth. Upon receipt of such change of residence notice the commissioner shall cause the signature to be compared with the registration forms of the applicant and, if such signature appears to be of and by one and the same legal voter, the commissioner shall cause the entry of the change of residence to be made on those registration forms and the registrant shall have so moved. If the commissioner is not satisfied as to the signature on the request for a change of residence, a confirmation notice as prescribed by subsection d. of R.S.19:31–15 shall be sent by mail with postage prepaid to the registrant at the new address.

The application for change of residence shall be filed with the commissioner or municipal clerk, as the case may be, on or before the twenty-ninth day preceding any election. All applications for change of residence postmarked on or before the twenty-ninth day preceding any election shall be deemed timely.

In any county any voter who, prior to an election, shall move within the same county after the time above prescribed for filing an application for change of residence without having made application for change of residence, or who has not returned a confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or who has not moved since the previous election but whose registration information is missing or otherwise deficient, or has otherwise failed to notify the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within the county, shall be permitted to vote in that election in the district to which the voter has moved, upon signing an affidavit, which shall set forth (1) the date upon which the voter moved, (2) the address from which the voter moved, and (3) the address to which the voter-moved, and submitting that affidavit, completed and signed, to the municipal elerk of the municipality in which the voter resides, and such affidavit making a written affirmation regarding the change of address at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. No identifying document shall be required from the voter for this affirmation. A district board member shall provide the voter with a provisional ballot, and an envelope with an affirmation statement that conforms with the requirements for such documents contained in subsection b. of section 7 of P.L.1999, c. 232 (C.19:53C-1). The voter shall complete the provisional ballot and affirmation statement, place the ballot in the envelope, seal and return it to the district board member. The board member shall review the information in the affirmation statement for completeness before forwarding it for inspection, tabulation and notation by the county board of elections, as provided for by sections 7 through 26 of P.L.1999, c. 232 (C.19:53C-1 et seq.). The affirmation statement shall constitute a transfer to the said registrant's new residence for any subsequent election. The municipal clerk shall, immediately following the election, transmit each such affidavit so submitted to the commissioner of registration for the county in which the district is located, and the commissioner shall correct the voter's address in the registry list of the county. The county clerk-shall furnish to the municipal clerks form affidavits for this purpose and the municipal clerks shall turn over all signed affidavits to the commissioner; provided, however However, if the voter has moved from one residence to another within the same election district at any time, the voter shall be permitted to vote in such election district at any election in the same manner as other voters at the polling place upon written affirmation by the registrant to the municipal clerk district board member of the registrant's change of address.

c. A voter who moves from an election district in one county to an election district in another county prior to the close of registration preceding an election shall register in the new county of residence, in accordance with the provisions of R.S.19:31-6, in order to be permitted to vote.

Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 3, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

19:31-16. Reports of death by health or vital statistics officers; records transferred to death file

a. The health officer or other officer in charge of records of death in each municipality shall file with the commissioner of registration for the county in which the municipality

19:31–16 ELECTIONS

is located once each month, during the first five days thereof, the age, date of death, and the names and addresses of all persons 18 years of age or older who have died within such municipality during the previous month. Upon Within 30 days after the receipt of such list the commissioner shall make and complete such investigation as is necessary to establish to his satisfaction that such deceased person is registered as a voter in the county. If such fact is so established, the commissioner shall cause the registration and record of voting forms of the deceased registrant to be transferred to the death file as soon as possible. If the deceased person was not so registered in the county, but the list filed with the commissioner indicates that the person maintained a residence in one or more other counties another county of this State, the commissioner officer in charge of records of death in the municipality in which the decedent died shall forward a copy of the notice of death to the officer in charge of records of death in the municipality in which the decedent resided. That officer having received the notice shall notify the commissioner in that other of the county or those other counties of having received official notice in which that municipality is located of the death of the person, and any. Any commissioner of such other county who receives such notification shall undertake the procedures prescribed herein with respect to the registration in that county of the decedent.

b. The State registrar of vital statistics shall file with the commissioner of registration of each county no later than May 1 of each year an alphabetized list of the name, address, and date of birth, if available, of each resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the previous year. Within 30 days after the receipt of the list the commissioner shall undertake and complete such investigation as is necessary to establish that each person on the list is not registered as a voter in the county. The commissioner shall cause the registration and record of voting forms of any deceased registrant found on the list to be transferred to the death file as soon as possible. Amended by L.1999, c. 232, § 31, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

Historical and Statutory Notes

1999 Legislation

L.1999, c. 232, § 34, approved Oct. 7, 1999, provides:

"Within nine months following the enactment of P.L.1999, c. 232, the State registrar of vital

statistics shall file with the commissioner of registration of each county for the purpose of R.S.19:31-16 as amended an alphabetized list of the name and address of each resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the previous 40 years."

19:31-16.1. Neglecting or failing to file or accept appropriate death record information; criminal penalty

a. Any State, county or municipal officer in charge of the records of death for the State, or a county or municipality thereof, who knowingly and willfully neglects, fails or refuses to prepare for or to file with the commissioner of registration of each county information regarding any resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the previous year, pursuant to R.S.19:31–16 as amended, or who died during the 40-year period prior to the enactment of P.L.1999, c. 232, or who knowingly and willfully prepares or files such information about any resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died that is false, erroneous or incomplete, is guilty of a crime of the third degree.

b. Any election official who knowingly and willfully neglects, fails or refuses to accept any information from a State, county or municipal officer in charge of the records of death for the State, or a county or municipality thereof, regarding any resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the previous year, as provided for by R.S.19:31-16 as amended, or who died during the 40-year period prior to the enactment of P.L.1999, c. 232, or who knowingly and willfully neglects, fails, or refuses to conduct the investigation and transfer of the registration and records of any deceased registrant to the death file pursuant to R.S.19:31-16 as amended, is guilty of a crime of the third degree.

As used in this subsection, "election official" shall include, but not be limited to, any superintendent or deputy superintendent of elections, commissioner of registration, or member or employee of a county board of elections.

L.1999, c. 232, § 32, eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

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ELECTIONS 19:31–16.2

19:31-16.2. State registrar of vital statistics to provide list of deaths

a. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the State registrar of vital statistics shall provide to the chairman of the county committee of a political party, or the designee thereof, upon the request of the chairman or the chairman's designee, a copy of the alphabetized list of the name, address and date of birth, if available, of each resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the previous year, as provided for by R.S.19:31-16 as amended, and a copy of the alphabetized list of the name, address, and date of birth, if available, of each resident of the county 18 years of age or older who died during the 40-year period prior to the enactment of P.L.1999, c. 232. as provided for by that act.

b. The chairman of the county committee of a political party shall have the authority to inquire whether the commissioner of registration of the county in which the chairman resides is conducting or has conducted the investigations and transfers of the registration and records of deceased registrants, in compliance with R.S.19:31-16 as amended. In the event that the chairman finds the commissioner of registration is not complying, in the chairman's opinion, with R.S.19:31-16 as amended, the chairman shall report this finding to the Attorney General for further investigation or action, if deemed necessary. L.1999. c. 232. § 33. eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

INDEX

CONSULT GENERAL INDEX

