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Jon Husted Ohio Secretary of State

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Issued Pursuant to Court Order DIRECTIVE 2014-17

June 17, 2014

- To: All County Boards of Elections Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members
- Re: Uniform Days and Hours for In-Person Absentee Voting

BACKGROUND

On June 11, 2014, a Federal District Court declared R.C. 3509.03 to be unconstitutional and permanently enjoined the Secretary of State from enforcing it to the extent that it relates to the 6:00 p.m. deadline for in-person absentee voting, which was enacted by the General Assembly in 2011. In addition, the Court ordered the Secretary of State to "set uniform and suitable hours for in-person early voting hours for all eligible voters for the three days preceding all future elections."¹

INSTRUCTIONS

All boards of elections are instructed to adopt the following as their business hours for in-person absentee voting:

A. Presidential General Elections²

- Weeks One and Two of Voting (beginning with the day after the close of registration for the election,³ except any holiday established by state law⁴)
 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
- Week Three of Voting
 - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
 - o 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday
- Week Four of Voting
 - o 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election⁵
 - \circ 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday before the election⁵
- Week of Election Day
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election⁵

B. Presidential Primary Elections⁶ and Gubernatorial General Elections⁷

- Weeks One and Two of Voting (beginning with the day after the close of registration for the election,³ except any holiday established by state law⁴)
 - $\circ~~8{:}00~a.m.$ to $5{:}00~p.m.$ on each weekday (Monday through Friday)

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- Week Three of Voting
 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday
- Week Four of Voting
 - o 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election⁵
 - \circ 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday before the election⁵
- Week of Election Day
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election⁵

C. Regular Municipal Elections,⁸ Primary Elections,⁹ and Special Elections¹⁰

- Weeks One, Two and Three of Voting (beginning with the day after the close of registration for the election,³ except any holiday established by state law⁴)
 - $\circ~~8{:}00~a.m.$ to $5{:}00~p.m.$ on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
- Week Four of Voting
 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each weekday (Monday through Friday)
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election⁵
 - \circ 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday before the election⁵
- Week of Election Day
 - \circ 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election⁵

Any voters in line at the end of these regular business hours must be permitted to make their application and vote.¹¹

If you have any questions concerning this Directive, contact the Secretary of State's elections attorney assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

Jon Husted

- ¹ Obama for America v. Husted, Case No. 2:12-cv-636, June 11, 2014 Memorandum Opinion and Order, pgs. 7-8.
- ² R.C. 3501.02(A).
- ³ R.C. 3509.01(B) and R.C. 3511.10, as amended. See, Am. S.B. 238 (130th General Assembly).
- ⁴ R.C. 1.14.
- ⁵ *Obama for America*, pgs. 7-8.
- ⁶ R.C. 3501.01(D)(2).
- ⁷ R.C. 3501.01(C).
- ⁸ R.C. 3501.01(B).
- ⁹ R.C. 3501.01(E)(1).
- ¹⁰ R.C. 3501.01(D).
- ¹¹ R.C. 3509.01(B)(3).