

CAPITOL REPORT

News & Updates from Your State Capitol
By Arkansas Secretary of State Mark Martin



Election Season is Here — Primary Voting May 5-20

In May, Arkansas voters will choose from more than 400 candidates for various federal, state and district offices during the Preferential Primary Election.

The May 20 election also serves as the General Election for nonpartisan judicial and prosecuting attorney races.

“We had a large number of candidates filing for office this year,” Secretary Martin said. “Even with a winter storm and ice accumulation on the last day of the filing period, incumbents and hopefuls alike were enthusiastic about filing.”

Early voting for the primary election begins Monday, May 5



and continues through May 19. For any race in which no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote, a runoff election will be held June 10.

Voters this year will decide on all seven of the state’s constitutional officers, all four Congressional seats and one U.S. Senate seat. Numerous judicial, legislative and prosecutor races are also on the ballot.

“We want to remind voters that this is the General Election for prosecutors and judges,” Martin said. “Unless there is a runoff for a particular race, this is the only opportunity to vote for those offices.”

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Remember to take your photo I.D. to the polls

As the 2014 election cycle opens, Secretary Martin reminds voters to take photo identification to the polls.

“The new Voter I.D. law requires most voters to show photo identification before casting a ballot,” he said. “We’re working to ensure that everyone knows about this requirement before they attempt to vote.”

The law also applies to absentee ballots.

“Voters who cast an absentee ballot should include proof of identity when they send their absentee ballot,” Secretary Martin said. “The only exceptions to this are people who vote absentee due to military deployment. Other absentee voters may be afforded the opportunity to provide proof of their identity to election commissions up to seven days after the election.”

Several types of identification are acceptable. Voters who do not have any kind of photo I.D. can go to their county clerk’s office for a free voter photo I.D. card.

Accepted forms of photo identification include passports, accredited post-secondary school-issued IDs, state or federal employee I.D. badges, a concealed handgun permit, a public assistance identification card, U.S. military I.D. and state-issued driver’s licenses.

See PHOTO I.D. continued on page 2



The Secretary’s Minute

Spring in an even-numbered year means one thing in Arkansas politics: primary elections.

Our Elections division is busy year-round every year, but election years are especially demanding. During candidate filing this year, over 400 individuals registered to run in state or district races. We’re providing training to poll workers and election officials and working to educate voters about the new voter I.D. law.

This law requires voters to present photographic identification at the polls, and to include proof of identity in absentee ballots. Our “Face Your Vote” initiative is spreading the word through radio spots, posters, booklets, social media and other venues.

Voting is also the topic of one of our long-standing, universally popular programs. The semi-annual Young Voters workshop seeks to educate students from around Arkansas about the importance of voting. We are preparing to share this program with other secretaries of state across the nation.

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Secretary's Minute, continued from page 1

I am very pleased to announce a new option for notaries public. Arkansas notaries in good standing can apply for a commission enhancement authorizing them to electronically notarize documents. You can find more information in this newsletter, or on our website at www.sos.arkansas.gov, by looking for the e-notary section under Business & Commercial Services.

Training is also continuing for "traditional" notaries. Check out the schedule in this newsletter or on our website for the appropriate training date.

I am also proud of the work we have done on the Capitol. Back in December, we unveiled a massive restoration of the interior dome. (If you have not seen this yet, I urge you to visit the Capitol Rotunda and simply look up. You will see details that have been invisible for decades.)

Behind the Capitol, the newly dedicated Fallen Firefighters Memorial honors those who run toward danger, who have fallen to smoke and flames but have risen as heroes in our state.

I hope you will get involved this year. Register to vote — or conduct a voter registration drive. Vote in your first election — or your fiftieth. Start a business, or expand it. Visit your state Capitol, or bring your grandchildren.

And, as always, I invite you to contact my office if my staff can be of any assistance. We are here to serve you.

Mark Martin
Arkansas Secretary of State

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PHOTO I.D., continued from page 1

Residents of long-term or residential care facilities licensed by the state are not required to show photo ID. However, they must have a letter from the facility administrator, saying the voter is a resident of the facility.

Anyone who fails to provide photo I.D. may cast a provisional ballot. The voter must return to the county clerk's office or the County Board of Election Commissioners by noon the Monday after the election with proof of ID, or an affidavit swearing the voter has no I.D. because of indigence or a religious objection to being photographed.

"We want every voter's ballot to be counted," Secretary Martin said. "It's important that each voter remember to carry some form of state or federally-issued photo identification, in order to protect their vote."

More information about the new law and voter I.D. is available at www.faceyourvote.org.



ELECTION, continued from page 1

Voters can choose to vote in one of the state's two party primaries — Democratic or Republican — or can request a nonpartisan ballot to vote for only nonpartisan candidates. Nonpartisan candidates will appear on all party primary ballots. The Green Party of Arkansas and the Libertarian Party of Arkansas will hold their primaries by convention, and will not participate on May 20. Their candidates will be available on the November 4, 2014, General Election ballot.

Information about races is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections.



The website offers a wide range of information for voters from voter registration applications and descriptions of voting equipment, to candidate information and help for military and overseas voters.

"I encourage everyone, whether they are newly-registered or long-time voters, to visit our website before going to the polls," Martin said. "But most importantly, I encourage everyone to go vote."



Use a QR Code app on your Smartphone or tablet to check your voter registration status and find your polling place

www.VoterView.org

Arkansas Implements Electronic Notarization



Beginning in April, the Secretary of State's office is implementing electronic notarization in Arkansas, allowing notaries in good standing to apply for authorization to e-notarize.

"This project will build a more convenient atmosphere for e-commerce in Arkansas," Secretary Martin said. "Several Arkansas counties have begun or are moving toward electronic recording of real estate, and we anticipate those transactions as well as financial institutions being significant users of this service."

Bail bonds companies will also benefit, he said. "We have talked with bail bonding companies that expect to save hundreds of dollars monthly on paper costs, by adopting e-notarization."

Individuals who wish to become e-notaries must currently be in good standing as a commissioned

Arkansas notary public. Training is required to become an e-notary; an application form is available on the e-notary page of the Secretary of State's website, bit.ly/Ark_eNotary.

"I am very pleased that implementing e-notarization in Arkansas will not burden taxpayers with increased costs," Martin said. "That was my top priority for this project: low costs for both the state and the notary." E-notaries will select from a list of approved solution providers, based on their needs and uses for e-notarizations.

"That relationship will be a private arrangement between the notary and the provider," Martin said. "Some notaries who have a high volume of transactions may prefer one solution, while others may prefer a solution based on its low monthly subscription fees."

The solution provider list, application packet and training dates are available on the Secretary of State's website. E-notary training will be held monthly in Little Rock at no charge, but applicants must register in advance. The first training session is scheduled for April 29; full details are available on the website.

Questions may be addressed by e-mailing enotary@sos.arkansas.gov.

"This project has been underway for several months, as we have researched what is most convenient for Arkansas notaries public," Secretary Martin said. "I am confident that Arkansas is ready for this, and I anticipate seeing usage increase as notaries become more familiar with the potential benefits of being an e-notary."

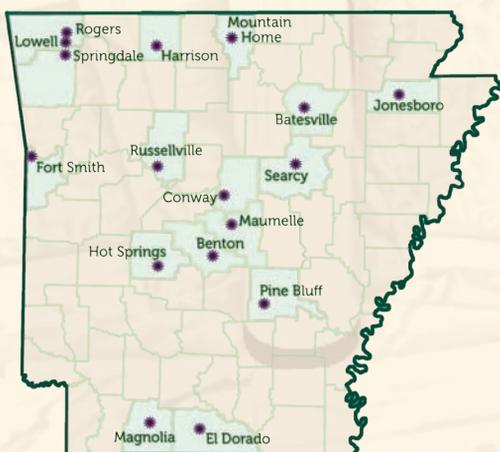
Notary Public roadshow now underway

Arkansas Secretary of State Mark Martin is proud to continue offering informational sessions to the state's notaries public.

The 90-minute seminars are geared toward both prospective and current notaries public in Arkansas. The Secretary of State encourages notaries to attend to gain important information about the ever-changing Arkansas notary public laws and regulations.

Pre-registration is required; simply visit www.sos.arkansas.gov/bcs. For more information, email danielle.fusco@sos.arkansas.gov, or call (501) 682-5286 or toll free at (888)233-0325.

The seminars kicked off in Batesville with a great turnout in March. The remaining sessions scheduled for 2014 are:



- April**
- 22 — Searcy
- 24 — Maumelle
- May**
- 5 — Springdale
- 6 — Rogers
- 13 — Hot Springs
- 15 — Conway
- 22 — Pine Bluff

- June**
- 11 — Harrison
- 12 — Mountain Home
- 16 — Springdale
- 17 — Lowell
- 26 — Benton

- July**
- 9 — Jonesboro
- 15 — El Dorado
- 16 — Magnolia
- 31 — Russellville

- August**
- 27 — Fort Smith

Monument Dedicated to Honor Fallen Firefighters

Visitors to the Capitol grounds will have a new place to sit and reflect, literally in the shadow of heroes.

The Fallen Firefighters Memorial features a statue grouping of firefighters, a series of panels listing the names of fallen firefighters, and a fountain, set into a small amphitheater.

The memorial was dedicated March 22, and several hundred people crowded the Capitol Mall for the ceremony.

The dedication featured a roll call and bell toll for each of the 104 firefighters who have died in the line of duty in Arkansas. Those names ranged from Julius Deiser of the Fort Smith Fire Department, who died April 4, 1889, to Randall R. Pogue of the Oak Grove Fire Department, who died Feb. 19, 2014 – the fourth firefighter to die in the line of duty this year.

A pipe and drum corps included firefighters from Conway, Jonesboro, Little Rock and Longview, Texas, honoring the fallen.

At left- Johnny Reep, chairman of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial, receives the Capitol Citation from Secretary Martin.



Located on the Mall behind the Capitol building, the monument is central to the buildings that comprise Capitol Complex.

“This is a quiet place in the middle of five or six office buildings, where workers can come out during their break or for lunch to share the monument,” Johnny Reep of the Arkansas Fallen Firefighters organization said.

The Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission approved installation of the memorial in February 2013.

“I’m very pleased that this monument has been completed,” Secretary Martin said. “I am honored to have been Secretary of State and chairman of the commission that approved the project.”

Secretary Martin said the memorial is an appropriate addition to the monuments around the Capitol.

“Memorials on the grounds honor the soldiers of several wars, as well as law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty,” he said. “It’s fitting that firefighters who give their lives in their work are honored at the State Capitol.”



Three-Day Young Voters Workshop Reaches More Than 160 students

The Arkansas Secretary of State's office hosted its semi-annual Arkansas Young Voters Workshop March 18-20, drawing more than 160 student attendees from schools and homeschool groups all across the state.

The attendees learned about the history of voting and how hard many different groups fought throughout America's past to win the right to vote. Hands-on activities included creating and enacting historical skits, watching videos and playing trivia games. The students also learned how to use a voting machine and what they need to bring with them, such as a photo I.D., when they go to their polling place. Students also engaged in friendly debates,



tackling current issues such as cyberbullying and social media privacy.

There were several first-time attendees of the event, including

Napoleon Cross, a teacher who made the two-hour trip from Lafayette County High School in Stamps,

with his students. After attending the March 20 session, Cross said he and his students appreciated the workshop.

"When we got back, the kids told the principal how much they enjoyed it," he said later.

Attending the workshop was an important experience for students, Cross said. He talked with his students the next day and asked what they learned from Young Voters.

"I had them share with the class what they got out of it, and I was surprised how much they got out of it and how intently they were listening," he said.

To see photos from this event and others hosted by the Secretary of State's office, visit our online gallery at bit.ly/ARSOSphotos.

The next Arkansas Young Voter Workshop will be held in September.



Now Showing — Made Here: From Arkansas, for the World

The State Capitol's spring exhibit examines products manufactured in Arkansas, offering a look beyond the agriculture, commodities and natural resources that are familiar to most Arkansans.

Made Here: From Arkansas, for the World highlights a handful of roughly 3,000 Arkansas manufacturers whose products are made in Arkansas, destined for national and even global markets.

During the 1950s, state and local governments began to actively court manufacturers, touting Arkansas's work force, a favorable tax and financial climate and a location with good access to both materials and markets. The Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, created in 1955, helped "sell" Arkansas to producers. Over time, many factories and assembly shops have closed, but others continue to open. Currently about 163,000 Arkansans work in manufacturing, and

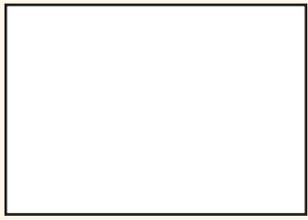
in 2012, their output was valued at nearly \$16 billion.

Made Here profiles the histories of six of Arkansas's major manufacturers, including Daisy Outdoor Products, Baldor Electric, Remington Arms, American Railcar Industries, Ranger Boats and Alliance Rubber. Images and items supplied by these companies help tell their stories and illustrate the output of their Arkansas operations.



These include small arms ammunition and components from Remington and the prototype for Daisy's 2015 Red Ryder 75th anniversary commemorative edition airgun. Alliance Rubber of Hot Springs has supplied what may be the exhibit's most eye-catching single item: a dress adorned with literally thousands of varicolored rubber bands. Across from the dress, a pair of long-bill scissors commemorates one of Twentieth-century Arkansas's pioneering manufacturers, Solid Steel Scissors of Fort Smith.

Made Here is located on the Capitol's ground floor, north and south of the rotunda area. It will remain on display through mid-May. For a bonus look at the exhibit, visit our YouTube channel for commentary by Dr. David Ware, Capitol historian, bit.ly/CapitolExhibit_Sp14.



SECRETARY OF STATE
MARK MARTIN

State Capitol, Suite 256
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

www.sos.arkansas.gov



Use a QR Code app on your
Smartphone or tablet to view
photos from the dedication
of the
Arkansas Fallen
Firefighters Memorial

2014 Annual Franchise Tax

File Electronically Today

Mark Martin
Arkansas Secretary of State

Deadline: May 1, 2014

Prepare and update your 2014 franchise tax report online at

www.sos.arkansas.gov

Arkansas Secretary of State

NOTE: Revoked entities continue to accrue franchise taxes annually until the business is dissolved/withdrawn with the Business & Commercial Services Division.

**Business and Commercial
Services Division**

Phone: 501.682.3409

Toll Free: 888.233.0325

Web: www.sos.arkansas.gov



Contact Business and Commercial Services Division for forms to file by mail.