

# GUARDIAN GAZETTE

For the Guardians of Democracy



Issue 21 - June 30, 2024  
traviscountyelections.org

## ELECTION HERO SHOUT-OUT

Thank you for continuing to serve Travis County voters during such a busy election year! In the span of a few short months, voters have been able to cast their ballots in the Primary Election in March, the Local Election at the beginning of May, the Primary Runoff Election at the end of May and the Local Runoff in June.

Even though each election presented unique challenges, our team of permanent staff, seasonal staff and poll workers continued to show up with determination and provided timely solutions. We could not do the work we do without you and we appreciate you so much. On behalf of the entire staff here at Travis County Elections, we want to recognize your dedication, exemplary service, and commitment to fair and just elections.

Additionally, we want to highlight the team at Christ Episcopal Church in Cedar Park. Since our Local Runoff election only included the race for Councilmember for the city of Leander, we were able to host the election with very limited polling sites here in Travis County. We were able to serve the 7,670 registered voters with two polling sites at 5501 Airport and Christ Episcopal Church. Thank you to the Early Voting AM team: Robert Ziemann, Linda Ziemann, Stephen Schulze and Julie Fowler; the Early Voting PM team: Patricia Ballard, Joyce Snodgrass, Carolyn Moody, and Paul Tryhus; and the Election Day team: Robert Ziemann, Linda Ziemann, Carolyn Moody, and Julie Fowler.



Pictured: Austin Energy's PM Crew showing off their VOTE bracelets for the Primary

38 In-Person Voting Days in less than 4 months!!

## ELECTION RESULTS

<u>PR24, May 28</u>	
<b>14,534</b>	Total Ballots Cast
<b>897,556</b>	Registered Voters
<b>1.62%</b>	Voter Turnout
<b>Ballot by Mail</b>	
<b>PR24 Mailout:</b>	
<b>9,716</b>	ballots sent
<b>4,721</b>	ballots returned
<b>4,670</b>	ballots accepted
<b>24</b>	ballots surrendered and cancelled

<u>LR24, June 15</u>	
<b>648</b>	Total Ballots Cast
<b>7,670</b>	Registered Voters
<b>8.45%</b>	Voter Turnout
<b>Ballot by Mail</b>	
<b>LR24 Mailout:</b>	
<b>88</b>	ballots sent
<b>50</b>	ballots returned
<b>50</b>	ballots accepted
<b>0</b>	ballots surrendered and cancelled

- [Link to Travis County Election Night Reporting](#)
- [Link to Texas SOS Election Results](#)

Thank you

Correction: Last month's shout-out included a picture of Joyce Statz and David Kline.

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## TRAINING UPDATE: ELECTIONEERING REMINDERS AND TIPS

If you've recently attended one of our training sessions in person or online, you already know that the Secretary of State put out a new advisory that affects electioneering guidelines earlier this year. Since this topic continued to generate questions, we wanted to provide additional clarification. Election Advisory No. 2024-09, which came out April 19, 2024, states "Each early voting and election day polling place must be organized with 100-foot distance markers posted at surrounding outside entrances to the building. During the voting period and inside this protected area, it is prohibited to electioneer, including expressing preference for or against any candidate, measure, or political party, regardless of whether they are or are not on the ballot, or relating to the conduct of an election. Tex. Elec. Code §§ 61.003, 85.036"

This newly updated guidance expands the definition of what can be considered electioneering beyond what is specifically on the ballot. Previously, it was unlawful to campaign for or against any candidate or proposition that was on the ballot within the 100 foot distance markers. Now, any reference to a political candidate or political party can be considered electioneering. The Secretary of State publishes new advisories ahead of each election so we'll be keeping an eye out for additional clarification. We understand this guidance is broad so we want you to use your best judgement when deciding if something might fall under the category of electioneering. During an election, you'll be able to call the call center to get guidance for specific scenarios. In the meantime, if you have questions now, please email us at [tcctrainingadmin@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:tcctrainingadmin@traviscountytexas.gov).

By **Andres Sanchez**  
Training Coordinator



## Jacqueline's Fun Fact!

What's the wildest polling place you can think of? If you said the International Space Station, you're RIGHT. Did you know that under federal law, all overseas and military voters have the right to apply for absentee voting using a special form known as the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA)? Whether they be a student studying abroad, military personnel deployed to a remote foreign area, or even a NASA astronaut aboard a spaceflight mission, these U.S. citizens face unique obstacles in participating in elections they are eligible for. The FPCA helps preserve their right to vote, even when they're in space!



By **Jacqueline Augenbraun**  
BBM Coordinator



## STAY CONNECTED

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