

Official Notice of Election for Military and Overseas Voters

County of Chester

2017 Municipal Election (November 7, 2017)

This is an official notice of an election to be conducted on 11/7/2017 in Chester County. You may register to vote and request an official absentee ballot by using the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA), available at www.votespa.com or www.fvap.gov. You may apply for an absentee ballot by submitting your FPCA by fax to (610)344 - 5682, or by email to krahn@chesco.org.

You may request an absentee ballot from this office at any time prior to a primary or election. However, if time does not permit you to receive and return an official absentee ballot, you are also entitled to vote using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

You may use the FWAB to vote for a candidate for all state and local offices, and ballot initiatives.

To vote, refer to page 3 of the FWAB.

To vote for state and local offices or for ballot initiatives – write the names of candidates or the ballot initiative in the Addendum Section of the FWAB

Under the **Office/Ballot Initiative** heading, enter the office the candidate is running for or the title of the Ballot Initiative (referendum).

Under the **Candidate Name, Party Affiliation or Initiative Vote** heading, list the name of the candidate you wish to vote for, or if you are voting on a Retention or Referendum question write “yes” or “no.”

BALLOTS

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Chester County
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT -- Vote for Four -- All Precincts within Chester County
JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT -- Vote for Two -- All Precincts within Chester County

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE -- Vote for One -- Various Precincts within Chester County
Districts Include: 15-1-01, 15-3-01, 15-3-04, 15-3-05, 15-3-06, 15-4-01, and 15-4-03

CLERK OF COURTS -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Chester County

CONTROLLER – Vote for One –All Precincts within Chester County

CORONER – Vote for One –All Precincts within Chester County

TREASURER – Vote for One –All Precincts within Chester County

MAYOR -- Vote for One -- Various Precincts within Chester County

MEMBER OF COUNCIL -- Various Precincts within Chester County

TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR -- Various Precincts within Chester County

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONER (CALN) -- Various Precincts within Chester County

TAX COLLECTOR -- Vote for One -- Various Precincts within Chester County

AUDITOR -- Vote for One -- Various Precincts within Chester County

SCHOOL DIRECTOR -- Various Precincts within Chester County

JUDGE OF ELECTIONS -- All Precincts within Chester County

INSPECTOR OF ELECTIONS -- All Precincts within Chester County

SPECIAL ELECTION MEMBER OF COUNCIL – 4TH and 6TH Wards within West Chester Borough in Chester County

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
AMENDING THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT EXCLUSION

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing local taxing authorities to exclude from taxation up to 100 percent of the assessed value of each homestead property within a local taxing jurisdiction, rather than limit the exclusion to one-half of the median assessed value of all homestead property, which is the existing law?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

The purpose of the ballot question is to amend Article VIII, Section 2(b)(vi) of the Pennsylvania Constitution to permit the General Assembly to pass a law authorizing local taxing authorities to increase the amount of assessed value of homestead property that may be excluded when determining the real estate tax owed for homestead property. If the ballot question is approved, the General Assembly could then pass a law authorizing local taxing authorities to exclude up to one-hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of each homestead property when calculating the real estate tax owed on homestead property.

The Pennsylvania Constitution currently permits the General Assembly to pass a law authorizing local taxing authorities to exclude only a portion of the assessed value of homestead property when determining the amount of real estate tax owed. Under current law, the amount of assessed value that may be excluded from taxation cannot exceed one-half the amount of the median assessed value of all homestead property within a local taxing jurisdiction. Local taxing authorities may not increase the millage rate of its real property tax to pay for homestead property exclusions.

The effect of the ballot question would allow the General Assembly to pass a law increasing the amount of assessed value that local taxing authorities may exclude from real estate taxation for homestead property. Currently, local taxing authorities can exclude from taxation only up to one-half the amount of the median assessed value of all homestead property located in the local taxing jurisdiction. But if the ballot question is approved, the General Assembly would have authority to pass a law permitting local taxing authorities to exclude up to one-hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of each homestead property. Local taxing authorities would continue to be prohibited from increasing the millage rate of its tax on real property to pay for the homestead exclusions.

The ballot question, by itself, does not authorize local taxing authorities to exclude up to one-hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of each homestead property from real estate taxation. Local taxing authorities could not take such action unless and until the General Assembly passes a law authorizing them to do so. The ballot question authorizes the General Assembly to pass that law.

NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY TAX REFERENDUM

Ballot Question

“Do you favor increasing New Garden Township’s real estate tax by 0.1000 mills, the revenue from such increase to be used exclusively to fund the operation of the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library (also-known-as the Kennett Library)?” The current real estate property tax is 1.62 mills.

Plain English Statement

This means property taxes for residents of New Garden Township will increase by 0.1000 mills if a majority of the voters in New Garden Township casting their ballot in the 2017 general election vote in favor of the ballot question as presented above. The millage stated above of 0.1000 is the same as 10.00 cents per each \$1,000 in assessed property value as shown on your tax bill. If this tax increase is approved, the money raised from such tax may only be spent on the operation of the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library.

WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE REFERENDUM

Ballot Question

“Do you favor the imposition of a tax on earned income of Township residents by West Bradford Township at the rate of one-quarter of one percent annually to be used to preserve, conserve, and acquire open space property interest and benefits?”

Plain English Statement

Under the authority of the Open Space Preservation Act, Act 153 of 1996, the Board of Supervisors of West Bradford Township is seeking permission to increase the earned income tax by one-quarter of one percent for residents of the Township. The revenue received from the proposed increase in the earned income tax shall be used exclusively for open space conservation and/or preservation of farmland in strict compliance with the Act; to acquire open space in West Bradford Township as an absolute interest (fee simple) by conservation easement or by other similar method.

RETENTION QUESTIONS

Supreme Court

Shall THOMAS G SAYLOR be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

Shall DEBRA TODD be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

Superior Court

Shall JACQUELINE O SHOGAN be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

Court of Common Pleas

Shall DAVID F BORTNER be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 15th Judicial District, Chester County?

Shall KATHERINE B L PLATT be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 15th Judicial District, Chester County?

