Presentation – Voter Roll Maintenance

The three most common ways a voter registration may be cancelled under federal and state law are:

1. The voter affirmatively requests cancellation.
2. Voter Services has proper proof the voter is deceased.
   a. DOH
3. A five-year notice is sent to the voter and the voter fails to respond or communicate with Voter Services and fails to vote in the next two general federal elections.

Voter Services complies with Pennsylvania law by performing voter roll maintenance at least once per year. This process involves using address information from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) Program and the US Postal Services’ National Change of Address Program to identify voters who may have moved. These voters are sent a notice requesting updated address information. Additionally, Voter Services sends out the five-year notices to voters who have not voted or updated their registration in the previous five years. Voter Services also sends an additional notice to voters who have not voted in two consecutive federal election cycles.

To date in 2023, Voter Services has sent more than 12,000 notices to voters as part of voter roll maintenance. Depending on the response to these notices from the voter, or lack of response, Voter Services will update the voter’s information, place the voter on the Inactive Status, or remove the voter from the voter roll. A voter placed on Inactive Status is noted in the poll books at each polling location and the voter is required to complete and sign an “Affirmation of Elector” form with their correct residential address before they are able to cast a vote in any election. The action taken depends on the type of notice, the type of response (or lack thereof), and applicable federal and state law. As a result of this voter roll maintenance process, 9,625 voters were removed from the voter rolls after the 2022 General Election.

It is important to note that, according to state and federal law, the appearance on the USPS National Change of Address list does not, by itself, provide sufficient justification to remove a voter from the voter roll. Voter Services can only use this information as part of the statutorily required processes before removal from the voter roll.

In addition, Voter Service conducts monthly data clean-up in the Statewide Uniform Registry of Electors system, otherwise known as the SURE system. During this process, duplicate data sets are compared and investigated.

When a voter registration displays an address that is not in the SURE system yet, voter services conduct a full investigation to determine if the address may be added.

Voter Services investigates any addresses that are identified as non-residential.
We investigate, identify potential inconsistencies, and perform address verification on an ongoing basis throughout the year in accordance with State and Federal Law.