

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 26, 2025

## **FAYETTE COUNTY CANDIDATES PETITIONING FOR 2025 BALLOT**

**Uniontown, PA** – If someone knocks on your door or walks up to you with a pen and clipboard in hand over the next two weeks, chances are you are about to meet one of Fayette County's candidates for local elected office. To get on the ballot for 2025, candidates are required to gather signatures of registered voters and file petitions between now and March 11.

Elections in odd-numbered years are known as municipal elections, when municipal officials like mayor, council, supervisors, auditors, and school directors are elected. In addition, for 2025, several statewide appellate court judges and one local magistrate will be selected.

"These local positions affect your day-to-day life more than President, said Fayette County Director of Elections Marybeth Kuznik. "They are extremely important. And sadly, we frequently see many open seats offered on the ballot where no one steps up to run."

Kuznik, who has experience as a past candidate in her native Westmoreland County, said "candidates have a real chance to impact their communities for positive change."

Two special positions are open in every one of Fayette County's 77 voting precincts this year – Judge of Election and Inspector of Election. These officials work in each polling place during elections to help voters sign in to vote and cast their ballots. Judges and inspectors are paid for their work, and training is provided by the county. Those who serve must pay strict attention to following proper election procedures and must remain completely nonpartisan while working at the polls.

"If you are looking for a place where you can help your political party or support certain candidates, the office of Judge of Election or Inspector of Election is not for you," Kuznik said. "Judges and inspectors must be completely neutral on Election Day so that every voter regardless of party will know that his or her vote will be counted fairly and accurately as cast."

More details about open offices, along with a Candidate Handbook and full petition packet, are available at the Fayette County Election Bureau, located at 2 West Main Street in Uniontown. The handbook and packet can also be printed out from the Election Bureau's website <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/FayetteVotes">www.tinyurl.com/FayetteVotes</a>.

"If you have ever thought about running for office, now is your time," Kuznik added. "If you don't like everything that is happening in your area, this is your chance to step up and make it better."

The final deadline to file completed petitions with the Election Bureau is 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, March 11. Np exceptions can be made for late petitions.

Prospective candidates may call the Election Bureau with questions or for more information on how to run at 724-430-1289.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.fayettecountypa.org.

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