

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 28, 2024

ELECTION BUREAU BEGINS VOTER REGISTRATION MAINTENANCE

Uniontown, PA – More than 2,000 Fayette County-registered voters will soon receive address verification letters, as part of the election bureau's annual registration list maintenance.

Fayette County Election Bureau Director Marybeth Kuznik said the mailing is part of the Pennsylvania Department of State's National Change of Address (NCOA) regular housekeeping process.

"Every year, the Department of State receives NCOA notices from the U.S. Postal Service, along with information from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and other state agencies, that some voters may have moved," Kuznik said. "Over the summer, we send letters to these voters and ask them to confirm their address information. We don't want voters on our list who are no longer residents of the county, but we also don't want to remove anyone from the voter rolls incorrectly or accidentally, because the right to vote is so important."

While not every registered voter will receive a letter, those who do should provide the information requested and return the completed form as soon as possible, using the enclosed, pre-addressed, postage-paid reply envelope.

Forms can be mailed or hand-delivered to the Fayette County Election Bureau at 2 West Main St., Uniontown, PA 15401.

Kuznik said voters who fail to respond by Aug. 7, 2024, or have an "undeliverable" address will be placed on "inactive" status.

"Inactive voters can still vote, but will be required to fill out an Affirmation of Elector document at their polling place before casting a ballot," Kuznik said.

According to state law, inactive voters who either fail to respond to the election bureau or do not vote in two, consecutive federal elections (which fall in November of even-numbered years), are removed from the voter rolls. Once removed, those voters must re-register to vote in future elections.

Kuznik said she wants Fayette County voters who receive address verification letters to know they are "legitimate" and "part of the required federal and state process to maintain the county's voter rolls," as required by the National Voter Registration Act and the Pennsylvania Election Code.

"If you get a letter from the election bureau, please respond," she said. "Help us protect your right to vote and ensure the county's voter roll is as accurate as possible by keeping your voter record up to date."

For more information, call the Fayette County Election Bureau at 724-430-1289. Voters can also visit the PA Department of State website, <u>www.vote.pa.gov</u>, to register to vote, check their voter registration status, update voter information and more.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit <u>www.fayettecountypa.org</u>.

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This communication is part of the Fayette County PR Initiative, which is funded through the Fayette County Local Share Account (LSA) and Hotel Tax Grants in cooperation with the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, The Redstone Foundation and other partners. This funding has been designated for the continued promotion and marketing of Fayette County, PA.

For more information, contact Kristi Kassimer Harper, Public Relations Specialist, at 724-437-4571, <u>kkassimer@fayettecountypa.info</u> or Kaylie Glaze, Community Relations Coordinator, at 724-430-1200 Ext. 1611, <u>kmoore@fayettepa.org.</u>