

**INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE  
TO THE DUTIES OF  
OFFICERS AND VOTERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649403196

Instructions Relative to the Duties of Officers and Voters by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**VARIOUS**

**INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE  
TO THE DUTIES OF  
OFFICERS AND VOTERS**



# INSTRUCTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

## Duties of Officers and Voters

AS REQUIRED BY

"An Act to Regulate Elections"

(Revision of 1898)

Approved April 4th, 1898

AND THE SUPPLEMENTS THERETO

AND OTHER ACTS CONCERNING ELECTIONS

---

COMPILED AND PRINTED

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

---

The references in the body of this pamphlet are to sections of the printed compilation of the Law, issued by the Department of State in 1909, the text of which is in all cases to be consulted.

TRENTON, N. J.  
MACGILLISH & QUIGLEY, STATE PRINTERS.

1909.

7-15-06  
(Copy.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL,

Trenton, N. J., July 17th, 1906.

Hon. Samuel D. Dickinson,  
Secretary of State,  
Trenton, N. J.

Sir—My attention has been called to the confusion that seems to exist by reason of the provisions of Chapter 235 of the Laws of 1906 in reference to holding of primary elections. This act provides: "The first registry day in cities having a population exceeding thirty thousand shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of September in each year." It further provides that the time for holding the primary elections shall be the first registry date. "And in all election districts outside of cities having a population exceeding thirty thousand the said Boards of Registration and Election shall sit for the purpose of this act as primary election boards on the second or fourth Tuesdays of September."

Section 6 of Chapter 258 of the Laws of 1905 requires the Boards of Registry and Election, in all election districts in the State outside of cities having a population exceeding thirty thousand, to meet annually on the second Tuesday in September in each year for registration purposes, and on the second Tuesday of September said board shall meet for holding the primary election in their respective election districts.

While the situation is not plain, I have, after reflection, reached the conclusion that in an election district outside of cities having a population exceeding thirty thousand, the boards must still meet, for the purpose of registering voters, on the second Tuesday of September, as provided in section 6 of Chapter 258 of the Laws of 1905, notwithstanding Chapter 235 of the Laws of 1906.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT H. McCARTER,  
Attorney-General.

# Chronological Index

Of Duties Relating to the Election on November 2d, 1909.

---

## Month of June, 1909—

The chairman of the state committee of each of the two largest political parties may nominate two citizens in each county as members of the county board of elections for such county. *Section 13.*

## Month of July, 1909—

Two members of the county board of elections shall be commissioned during this month for each county by the Governor. The board consists of four persons. *Section 13.*

## July 1st, 1909—

It shall be the duty of the chairman of the county committee of each political party to notify the municipal clerk on or before the first day of July of each year of the number of delegates for which the members of the political party represented by the said chairman shall be entitled to vote in each election district in such municipality. *Section 262.*

## August 1st to September 1st, 1909—

Between these dates, in every year wherein electors of President and Vice President, members of the House of Representatives, a Governor, or Senator for any county, or any of them, are to be elected, the Secretary of State shall deliver to the clerk of every county wherein such election is to be held a notice stating that such officer or officers are to be elected at the ensuing election; the clerk of such county shall, within fifteen days after the receipt of the notice, deliver a certified copy of such notice to each township and municipal clerk in his county. *Section 5.* Between the same dates in every county wherein a sheriff, coroner, clerk, register, of deeds or surrogate is to be elected, the county clerk shall deliver a notice to each township and municipal clerk in his county that such officer or officers will be elected. *Section 6.*

## August 1st, 1909—

On or before this date the Secretary of State shall provide proper and sufficient canvassing-books, poll-books, register-books, copies of the election laws then in force, a pamphlet of instructions for election

officers and voters, blanks for the official oaths and for election returns for the proper carrying into effect of the provisions of this act, and furnish a sufficient supply of the same to the clerks of the different counties of this State, for use in such counties, at least thirty days before the same shall be required for use; and the said county clerks shall cause the same to be delivered to the different boards of registry and election in their respective counties at such times and in such quantity as will enable the provisions of this act to be fully carried out. *Section 61.*

The term of office of all members of the county board of elections, commissioned in July 1909, will begin August 1st, 1909. The term of office of two expires August 1st, 1910, and two August 1st, 1911. *Section 13.*

**August 1st to 10th, 1909—**

At 10 o'clock A. M., on the first Tuesday of August (August 3d, 1909), or on such other day as they may agree on within the first ten days of August, the county board of elections shall meet at the county court house or other place and organize. *Section 14.* Before entering upon the performance of their duties they shall take and subscribe an official oath or affirmation and forward it to the county clerk. *Section 16.*

**August 11th to 16th, 1909—**

After August 10th, and not later than August 15th, the chairman of the county committee of each of the two largest political parties may nominate members for the board of registry and election for the several election districts of the county, appointments to be made before August 25th in each year. *Section 15.*

**August 16th, 1909—**

If the chairman of the county committee of either of the two largest political parties has neglected to make such nominations as above mentioned, the county board of elections shall, on this date, notify him of such fact, that he may make the nominations on or before August 22d, 1909. *Section 15.*

**August 25th, 1909—**

On or before this date the county board of elections shall appoint the boards of registry and election for the respective districts of the county. *Section 15.*

**August 31st, 1909—**

On this date the boards of registry and election, outside of cities having a population exceeding 30,000, shall meet for organization, and at such meeting shall elect one of its members as judge, who shall be chairman of said board, and another of its members as inspector. *Section 19.*



**September 1st, 1909—**

The terms of office of the members of the district board of registry and election shall begin September 1st of each year, and expire on August 31st of the following year, or when their successors are appointed and qualified. *Section 17.* They shall take the official oath before performing any duty, and forward it to the county clerk. *Section 16.*

**September 6th, 1909—**

On or before this date the boards of registry and election, outside of cities having over 30,000 inhabitants, should have obtained canvassing-books, registry-books, &c., from the county clerk for use on September 7th. On or before this date the county board of elections may meet to fill vacancies in such boards of registry and election. At least twenty days before the primary election, which occurs on September 28th (that is, on or before September 8th), the township and municipal clerks shall have procured suitable rooms in which to make the registry of voters and to hold the primary and general elections, and immediately on procuring such rooms, such clerk shall notify the respective registry and poll clerks or boards of registry and election of the location of such rooms. Inasmuch as section 8 of the election act provides that the clerks of every township, &c., shall procure suitable rooms for the board of registry and election before the first registration day, it follows that the said clerk shall have procured such rooms on or before September 6th. *Sections 8, 266.*

**September 7th, 1909—**

On this date the boards of registry and election, in districts outside of cities having 30,000 inhabitants, have their first meeting, and shall then proceed to make a house-to-house canvass, completing it on or before Friday, September 10th. *Section 23.*

**September 13th, 1909—**

Petitions of nominations for county officers, under the provisions of the direct primary act, must be filed on or before this date. *Section 386.*

**September 14th, 1909—**

On this day each board of registry and election outside of cities having over 30,000 inhabitants shall hold its second meeting, between 1 and 9 o'clock P. M., for transcribing and making up from its canvassing-books two lists of all persons entitled to vote in its election district, who shall personally appear before the board for that purpose, or be shown to its satisfaction, by the affidavit in writing of some voter in the election district, to be a legal voter therein, which lists shall contain the names of the voters in alphabetical order, together with the residences and street numbers, if any. *Section 23.*

On or before this date the county board of elections shall publish notices of the meetings of the boards of registry and election, and of

the primary election on September 28th, in such newspapers, not exceeding six in all, as the said board shall designate. *Section 20.*

**September 15th, 1909—**

Each of the clerks of election shall on this date, outside of cities having over 30,000 inhabitants, post in hand-bill form, in some conspicuous place, a copy of the register made up the day before; as each clerk is required to post a copy, it follows that two copies must be posted. *Section 24.*

**September 18th, 1909—**

On or before this date the poll clerks in each election district shall give notice of the time and place of the primary election by five or more advertisements posted at conspicuous places in the district. *Section 268.*

On or before this date all petitions endorsing persons as candidates for public office, or as delegates to political conventions, shall be filed with the municipal or township clerk. *Section 259.*

On or before this date the clerks of all towns, townships, boroughs, cities or other municipalities shall certify, under their hands and seals, and forward to the clerk of the county in which such town, township, borough or city or other municipality is located a statement designating the town, township, borough or city or other municipal offices which are to be filled at such election, and the number of persons to be voted for each office. *Section 350.*

On or before this date all petitions for the nomination of municipal officers, under the provisions of the direct primary act, shall be filed with the municipal clerk. *Section 388.*

**September 21st, 1909—**

Should any person endorsed in any petition as a candidate to be voted for at any primary election die, or decline to stand as such candidate by a writing filed with the municipal or township clerk, on or before this date, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority of the persons who signed the petition in and by which the person so declining was endorsed, signing and filing with the municipal or township clerk a new petition, which petition shall be verified by three of the signers. *Section 274.*

On this date the boards of registry and election in cities having a population exceeding 30,000 shall meet for organization, and at such meeting shall elect one of its members as judge, who shall be chairman of said board, and another of its members as inspector. *Section 19.*

**September 27th, 1909—**

On the same day the municipal or township clerk shall have the election booths erected and ready for the primary election and furnished with black lead pencils. *Section 266.*

The municipal or township clerk shall, on the morning of this day, deliver to the clerks of the board of registry and election the ballots and ballot-boxes for such board, taking receipts therefor. *Section 267.*

On or before this date boards of registry and election in cities having over 30,000 inhabitants should have obtained register-books, &c., from the county clerk.

On this date the county board of elections may meet to fill any vacancies that may exist in any of the boards of registry and election.

**September 28th, 1909—**

In each city having over 30,000 inhabitants the district boards of registry and election are required to be in session on the fourth Tuesday of September (September 28th), from 1 to 9 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of registering voters. This is their first meeting for the registry of voters. *Section 257.*

On this date, between 1 and 9 o'clock P. M., the primary elections shall be held in every election district in the State. *Sections 23, 268.* At the close of the election the board of registry and election shall canvass the votes and make statements thereof in accordance with the provisions of *Section 270.*

Before opening the polls each member of the board of registry and election shall take an official oath. *Section 268.* The appointed agents to act as challengers, before so acting, shall file their appointment papers with the board of registry and election. *Section 280.* Upon opening the election the election clerks shall deliver to the election boards the ballots and ballot-boxes, taking receipts therefor. *Section 267.*

**September 29th, 1909—**

Each of the clerks of election shall on this day, in cities having over 30,000 inhabitants, post in hand-bill form, in some conspicuous place, a copy of the register made up the day before; as each clerk is required to post a copy, it follows that two copies must be posted. *Sections 21, 257.*

**October 3d to 25th, 1909—**

Within these dates the township and municipal clerks shall post notices in at least five of the most public places in each township and municipality of the time, place and purpose of the election and the office or offices to be filled thereat. *Section 7.*

**October 5th, 1909—**

On this date the boards of registry and election in cities having over 30,000 inhabitants should hold their second meeting from 1 to 9 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of revising and correcting their registers. *Section 22.*