

Editorial: 9-12-2022

Dear Palo Alto County Citizens,

I am writing to you today to provide **facts** around the upcoming General Election to be held on November 8, 2022, in Palo Alto County.

### **Important Dates to Know**

Wednesday, October 19, will be the first day to vote at the Auditor's Office at the Courthouse from 8 am. to 4 pm. Voter identification is required.

Wednesday, October 19, is also the first day that we can mail absentee ballots. If you want to vote by mail, get your request form to the Auditor's Office **now**. We only have 20 days to get the ballot to you and returned to our office by 8 pm on election night. The absentee ballot request form is available at our office or on the Secretary of State's website. <https://sos.iowa.gov>

Monday, October 24, at 5 pm is the last day to file a request form to have a ballot mailed and the pre-registration deadline. If you have moved, file an updated voter registration form at the Auditor's Office by 5:00 pm. You can still register to vote after this date by showing proof of identity and proof of residency.

Saturday, November 5, the Auditor's Office will be open from 8 am to 5 pm for absentee voting.

Monday, November 7, is the last day to vote by absentee at the Auditor's Office.

### **Redistricting**

Due to redistricting, you may have a new precinct and/or polling location. Please **read** the post card you will receive in the mail the week of October 17 to know where you go vote on election day.

### **Iowa Election Laws**

Under Iowa Law, we prepare a test deck of ballots before each election and test every machine that will be used on election day. We hold a public test of the voting machine on October 28, at 9 am at the Election Center in Emmetsburg. We provide hands-on training for the poll workers. We track each absentee ballot requested whether voted in office or sent in the mail. All absentee ballots are to be returned to the Auditor's Office by mail or hand delivered by 8 pm on election night to be counted. After the election, we conduct a post-election audit to verify the machine counts from election day.

My staff and I are working diligently to prepare for the election on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. The polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm. I want you to know the **facts** regarding elections in Iowa. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Palo Alto County Auditor & Commissioner of Elections