

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ISSUES INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR
ELECTION OBSERVERS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annapolis, Maryland (October 25, 2007) – The State Board of Elections recently issued information and instructions for individuals and entities who wish to observe the election process. The manual, adopted by the State Board of Elections at its October meeting, includes information on who can designate individuals to observe polling place activities on election day, the rights and responsibilities of these individuals, and other opportunities for observing the election process. The manual is available on the State Board’s website at www.elections.state.md.us (click “Get Involved”).

“We strive to provide open and transparent elections and encourage individuals to observe the election process,” said Robert L. Walker, Chairman of the five-member State Board of Elections. “This manual – the first of its kind in Maryland – informs observers of their rights and responsibilities on election day and will be a useful resource for observers, candidates, political parties, and pollworkers.”

“With presidential elections historically having the greatest participation and interest,” said Linda H. Lamone, State Administrator of Elections, “we wanted to offer clear guidance on election day processes, which will benefit both observers and our dedicated pollworkers. I encourage those interested in observing the process to review this informative and easy-to-use document.”

The State Board of Elections is an independent State agency and oversees all federal, State, and county elections. The agency’s mission is to provide all eligible citizens convenient access to voter registration, provide accessible locations in which voters may exercise their right to vote, ensure uniformity of election practices, promote fair and equitable elections, and maintain registration records, campaign fund reports, and other election-related data accurately and in a form that is accessible to the public.

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