

## **PRIMARY ELECTION PARTY DECLARATION INFORMATION**

The Primary Election for 2009 is quickly approaching on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Primary elections in New Jersey are used to select either the Democratic or Republican candidates who will be running in the November election.

However, to vote for Democratic candidates in the Primary election you must be registered as a Democrat in the Statewide Voter Records. The same is required for the Republicans and Republican candidates.

For example, if your Voter Record shows that you are currently registered as a Republican, in the Primary Election you can only vote for Republican candidates.

If you are currently registered in one party and wish to vote for the other party, you need to submit a Change of Party request with a postmark of or prior to April 13<sup>th</sup> (50 days before the election date)

One exception is if you are currently registered as an Unaffiliated voter. Unaffiliated voters can go to the polls on Primary Election day, declare themselves as either a Democrat or Republican "on the spot" and vote for that party's candidates only. After the election, your Statewide Voter Record will be updated to register you in that party and you will receive a notification card of that change. You can always change back or become Unaffiliated by submitting a party change form after the election

So, if you were Unaffiliated and voted for either Democratic or Republican candidates in a past Primary election, and never changed back to Unaffiliated, your Statewide Voter Record will have you affiliated with either the Democratic or Republican party.

If you are currently registered as any other political party, and don't change your party to Democratic, Republican, or Unaffiliated, by the April 13<sup>th</sup> deadline, you cannot vote in the Primary Election.

Even if you have been voting for either Democratic or Republican candidates in elections such as the General Election in November and that you "associate yourself" with either of these parties, unless you have voted recently in a Primary Election and are sure of your affiliation, you should not assume that you are formally registered in that party in the Statewide Voter Records. Many voters don't remember the last time they voted in a Primary Election or if they declared a Party when first registering to vote, so, you should confirm your Party Affiliation in case you may want to change it before the April 13<sup>th</sup> deadline.

If you reside in Middlesex County, to check your Statewide Voter Record:

- Go to the State WEB site at <https://voter.njsvrs.com/PublicAccess/isp/UserLogin/Login.jsp>
- Visit the Commissioner of Registration at 777 Jersey Ave., New Brunswick
- Call the Commissioner of Registration at 732-745-3471
- Visit or call your local Municipal Clerk

To get a form:

- Visit or call any of the locations above or
- To download a form go to [http://www.njelections.org/parties\\_doe.html](http://www.njelections.org/parties_doe.html)

***REMEMBER, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> IS THE DEADLINE FOR FILING  
A PARTY CHANGE FORM FOR THE JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> PRIMARY ELECTION.***

If you have any additional questions, please contact  
the Middlesex County Board of Elections at 777 Jersey Ave, New Brunswick  
or by phone at 732-745-3471 or E-Mail at [elections@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:elections@co.middlesex.nj.us)