

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

ORGANIZATION

The Onondaga County Board of Elections is a County Office, responsible for all Federal, State, County, City and Town elections, along with the Villages of Camillus and Manlius. Under present law, all villages (except Camillus and Manlius) and school district elections, as well as fire, water and other special district elections, do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Elections at this time.

The structure, responsibilities and duties of the Board are set forth in the New York State Election Law. Formal Board meetings and documentation of actions, discussion and decisions are being maintained.

The Board of Elections is located on the 15th floor of the Civic Center at 421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, New York.

HAVA/NEW YORK STATE ELECTION CONSOLIDATION/IMPROVEMENT ACT

In March of 2006, the Federal Department of Justice initiated a lawsuit to force NYS to create a specific written HAVA implementation and compliance plan. A consent order issued by US District Court Judge Gary L. Sharpe (Albany, NY) provided for an interim disabled voter-accessible ballot marking device (BMD) to be used on a limited basis in each county only in the 2006 elections, as well as specific timelines for full implementation of new voting systems after August 2007.

The state was not able to comply with the 2007 implementation time line. In December of 2007, Judge Sharpe ordered all NYS Counties to use a Ballot Marking Device in every polling place for September 2008 primary and 2008 general election. On June 4, 2009, Judge Sharpe signed an order allowing the State Board of Elections the options to roll out the new Voting Systems (Imagecast or ES & S) without being certified to all counties in New York State who wanted to participate in a Pilot Program.

In 2009, our office participated in the Pilot Program deploying 86 Imagecast Voting Systems to 13 towns, which involved 158 election districts with 69 polling sites. The rest of the county used the lever voting machines with the Ballot Marking Devices.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOMINION IMAGECAST VOTING SYSTEM

In the spring of 2010, meetings were held with the Commissioners, BOE staff and truckers to restructure the way the election process is conducted. A plan was needed to implement the deployment of the Imagecast Voting System and training the election inspectors throughout Onondaga County.

A review of all the polling sites was completed to determine the size, power sources and layout of each to assure space and accessibility for the voters and the voting equipment. During this process, we were able to consolidate polling sites into larger sites to try to eliminate the smaller and stand alone sites.

Changes needed to be made regarding the election inspector's program. The Imagecast Voting System allows for a new structuring of the election inspectors. The Commissioners worked on a formula that would allow for fewer inspectors in the larger polling site. The election inspectors were now reorganized into 3 different types (PSM-Polling Site Managers; VSS-Voting System Specialists; RI-Regular Inspectors). Two different training programs were created for the election inspectors based on the type of inspector. All inspectors were trained on the voting process. Only PSM and VSS were given a second training on the Imagecast voting system.

With the quantity of equipment that's needed to be deployed, a third trucker company was hired. A meeting was scheduled with the 3 trucking companies to divide the county into 3 equal delivery areas. A timeline needed to be established on delivery and pickup of the voting equipment. The trucking companies needed to provide us with quotes for the delivery and pickup per voting equipment. A spreadsheet was prepared that included all polling sites, voting equipment, contact names and phone numbers. This resulted in a much smoother transportation of the voting equipment from our Service Center to the polling sites by the truckers.

Our office purchased the Dominion Election Management System (EMS) for the programming of the Imagecast voting system and election night reporting. Six employees were trained for 1 week on how to input all the essential materials needed to program the voting system. This allows our staff to not only program the voting machines but design the election ballot used for voting on election day. The EMS not only programs the memory cards but reads them on election night to provide the election results.

Our greatest challenge was to decide whether to use a vendor to print our stubbed ballots or use the county print shop to produce a ballot that was able to be scanned in the voting system and produce the volume of ballots needed and be cost effective. The county Information Technology Department created a program to generate the election ballot process from EMS to the Print Shop.

PERSONNEL AND BUDGET

In keeping with state mandate, two Commissioners, one Republican and one Democrat administer the Board of Elections. The Commissioners are recommended by their respective County committees and appointed by the County Legislature every 2 years. The Board had 16 full time positions.

Both Commissioners' terms ended on December 31, 2010 and were reappointed for another two years.

2010 was a statewide election year. Governor/Lt. Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, (1) US Senator, (1) US Senator (TFV); Member of Congress, (2) State Senators, (5) Members of Assembly, (1) County Court Judge, (2) Family Court Judges, County Sheriff,; (2) City Court Judges; as well as special elections for (5) town offices. There were (2) local propositions – (1) county wide; (1) town. Eighteen (18) different absentee ballot styles were used in the General Election.

The Board of Elections is funded solely by the County of Onondaga. The 2010 adopted appropriations include the following:

Total 2010 Budget

Total County Budget	\$ 3,011,492
Salaries (full time)	\$ 739,025
Salaries*(temporary)	\$ 549,802

(*includes temporary clerks, election inspectors, voting machine technicians, training consultants)

ELECTION COST

Onondaga County is responsible for paying all election costs. These costs include storing, transporting and maintaining the Imagecast machines, paying machine technicians and election inspectors.

The County Board of Elections reviews all polling places for use and accessibility and tests and certifies all voting machines in Onondaga County. There are **275** Imagecast voting machines and **25** Imagecast scanners only voting machines in Onondaga County.

There were no county election charge backs to municipalities for 2010. HAVA will have some one time reimbursements that will require future annual operating expenditures. HAVA requires the county to maintain a pre-HAVA level of expenditures. We are required to follow Federal and NYS contract processes for the purchases most related to the new voting systems.

ELECTION DISTRICTS

In 2010, there were **464** Election Districts in Onondaga County. Five (**5**) of these were non-working districts. There is an average registration of **603** voters in each district. In 2010, the smallest district contained **3** voters (City 6-8) and the largest had an enrollment of **1,337** voters (Cicero 16).

POLLING PLACES

There were **175** polling sites in Onondaga County in 2010.

In 2007 we eliminated polling places that clearly were not accessible per Federal ADA standards. Starting in 2006, we required that all polling sites in Onondaga County sign a five (5) year lease.

In 2010, the Imagecast voting system was used countywide. Due to lack of space, construction, voter complaints and HAVA requirements, the Board was forced to change 26 polling sites. The voting area in each location was laid out to accommodate the integration of the Imagecast Voting System with the voting equipment. Each diagram was drawn and saved in an architectural program. The diagrams were printed and placed in all election supply bags and given to machine technicians for use on election day.

The County HAVA Funds Program for Polling Place Access Improvement allowed the Board of Elections to permanently install a wheel chair lift at the Fairmount Community Church; a handicapped accessible door at St. Lucy's Church; double leaf doors with automatic operators and handicap door threshold at Beaver Lake Nature Center and sidewalk, parking lot markings and curb cuts were installed at Eastern Hills Bible Church and Elmcrest Elementary School

SERVICE CENTER

On July 15, 2010, the ownership of all lever voting machines was transferred over to the Onondaga County Purchasing Department. Truckers were deployed to pickup any lever machines that were being stored in numerous sites throughout Onondaga County. The lever machines were delivered to the North Area Facility for storage. Truckers also picked up any remaining temporary disability fixes that were being stored throughout the county and delivered them to our facility on Thompson Road.

Onondaga County continued to rent a facility to house the 275 Imagecast voting system and the supplies needed to conduct elections. In 2010, 25 Imagecast scanner only voting machines were purchased. This building is located on Thompson Road. Because of the sensitive nature of the Imagecast, we install a security system. We have 2 full time voting machine custodians assigned to this site. We are required to have a democrat and republican on site whenever the building is open. If someone is unable to be there, we either need to send someone of the appropriate party to Thompson Road or require the remaining individual to come to the Civic Center. The Board of Elections convinced the County Executive and County Legislature to relocate our office to a new facility. This would provide more oversight to the new voting system and better access to voters and candidates. Much time is wasted traveling between three (3) locations. The County purchased a building located at 1000 Erie Blvd, West. Sometime in 2011 all functions will be located at this facility.

The State mandates quarterly testing of the Imagecast voting system. It takes a bipartism team approximately 1 hour per machine. This testing is done to ensure that the machines are functioning properly.

We are required to perform a process called pre-lat. This process requires the creation of a test deck, which requires someone to vote each position on the ballot and requires them to use all disability apparatus. Six seals are attached to each machine and their numbers are recorded on the Statement of Canvass sheet. The machines are packaged for delivery to the polling places. This also had to be done with a bipartisan team and took nearly 1½ hours per machine.

VOTING MACHINES TECHNICIANS/CUSTODIANS

Two (2) full time Onondaga County Voting Machine Custodians are responsible for maintaining, testing, and preparing the Imagecast voting systems for each election site within Onondaga County with the assistance of centralized voting machine technicians.

In 2010, there were 24 additional voting machine technicians in Onondaga County. Voting Machine technicians are appointed by the Board of Elections each year. In 2010, the voting machine technician rate of pay was \$19.50 an hour.

All 24 technicians were trained on the operations and troubleshooting for the Imagecast voting machines. Our two full time machine custodians however, did provide field support for all the voting system.

The NTS Custodian (Asset Tracking and Management System) was purchased for tracking voting system equipment. The program is designed to provide comprehensive bar-coding/tracking of the voting equipment. This allows our staff to maintain a history and chain of custody on the voting system and the equipment to provide the necessary reporting to the State Board of Elections.

Temporary fixes were again used to bring Onondaga County polling places into compliance with the Federal Help Americans Vote Act. The technicians were successful at setting up and taking down the temporary fixes in a 48 hour time frame around each election day.

The number of machines used for each election in 2010 was as follows:

<u>ELECTION</u>	<u>IMAGECAST</u>	<u>SCANNERS ONLY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Primary September 14 th	175	0	175
General November 2 nd	217	6	223

Additional spare Imagecast voting systems were prepared in case of breakdowns before each election. Also, 115 lever voting machines were loaned to unions (5), schools (87), villages (18), fire districts (2) and libraries (3) for elections and to schools for demonstration purposes through July 15, 2010.

ELECTION INSPECTORS

The election inspector program was restructured as follows:

Polling Site Manager – PSM
Voting System Specialist – VSS
Regular Inspector – RI

- A. Polling Site Manager is responsible for assigning work to all the inspectors in the site, making sure the voting system specialists have the machine up and running, directing voters to the correct election district and returning the ballots, memory cards and supplies to the designated site after the close of the polls.
- B. Voting System Specialist is responsible to open and run the voting machine during the hours of voting.
- C. Regular Inspector are responsible for processing the voters and ballot distribution.

New York State Law requires county boards to conduct **annual** mandatory “hands on” training sessions for all poll workers with an exam. Poll workers are paid for their election duties by the county at a rate approved by the county legislature. Polling Site Managers were paid \$235 for a General Election, Voting System Specialists were paid \$200 and a Regular Inspector were paid \$160 for the day. PSM and VSS are asked to report to work at 5AM to get the site opened and the voting machine ready for 6AM. Regular inspectors still report to work at 5:30AM.

Only Poll Site Managers and Voting System Specialists received a second training on the machines and should be able to fix most problems that may occur during the day. They also must be willing to work anywhere in Onondaga County

Our board continues its working relationship with Onondaga Community College (OCC) for inspectors. To get young people interested in the election process, we worked with OCC and the Political Science Department to make the election process part of the accreditation of the course assignment. If the student did not complete this assignment, he did not receive the credit.

After creating an extensive training program in 2009 for the election inspectors, our staff establish a process for scheduling the election inspections for their Hands On training. A total of 47 training sessions were scheduled at the Carousel Mall Sky Deck from May through mid June with a capacity of 50 inspectors per session which lasted about 2½ - 3 hours. A total of 32 machine training sessions with an exam were scheduled in August at the Service Center on Thompson Rd which last approximately 2 ½ hrs.

Our office held an open house on the Saturday before the election at the Service Center for all inspectors who wanted additional training before the election. The inspectors were not paid to attend the open house. The session lasted for 3 hours and approximately 50 attended.

A total of **1,796** election inspectors attended the hands on training. Only **6** inspectors failed the test. The training included the actually handling of all the paperwork used at a polling place during an election. Each inspector was also shown, as part of their training, how to open and close the Imagecast voting machine. Election Inspectors are paid \$25 per training session each year.

BALLOT ACCESS

Certain towns hold caucuses to select their candidates, but most candidates are required to file petitions to seek public office. All petitions for candidates for public office or party position, entirely within Onondaga County, are filed with this Board. Anyone seeking an office that crosses county lines is required to file in Albany at the New York State Board of Elections.

In 2010, candidates for public office filed **45** party designating petitions and **1,190** party position petitions. Each petition is logged in by Board staff and each candidate for public office is notified in writing that a petition has been filed on his/her behalf and the candidate is given an opportunity to accept or decline the designation or nomination. Any objections to the designation of a candidate are filed with the Board and ruled upon by the Commissioners. In 2010, there were **25** challenges to petitions filed. The Board received specifications on **(4)** of the challenges. A hearing was held in our office regarding a party position petitions. After further review, the commissioners agreed to accept the petitions as good. Candidates desiring to run on an independent line are required to file independent nominating petitions. In 2010, **2** independent nominating petitions were filed. There was 1 challenge with specifications to a petition filed. Additionally, **4** Certificates of Nomination were filed. There were **(0)** challenges with specifications filed on the certificates.

Party authorizations are filed for candidates who are not members of a Party for which the candidate wants that Party endorsement/line. No party authorizations were filed for Democrats. One Republican, (9)Conservatives, (13)Independence, (5)Working Families authorizations were filed.

IMAGECAST BALLOT PRINTING

In 2010, our office, County Print Shop and the IT Department worked hand in hand to develop a process to allow the Board to print the stubbed ballots in house.

Phase 1 - The project was to see if the Print Shop was able to meet the requirements of NYS Regulation 6210. Could they print color on the ballots for a primary election, could we purchase the proper weight paper, could they print on stock paper that was 8.5 x 17" with a 1" perforated end, could it be sequentially numbered, could it be stapled into a booklet of 50 per booklet and could they produce all the ballots in a timely fashion. Most importantly could they guarantee that they would have the equipment to complete the quantity of ballots needed for an election, with a backup plan if needed should the existing equipment failed.

Phase 2 – The print shop and our 2 machine custodians worked to make sure that the transfer of the EMS test data of the ballot files could be used by the print shop software to create the final printable stubbed ballot. The Print Shop also had to create a design for our sample ballots used in all polling sites. Test Decks were also printed at this time.

Phase 3 – The Print Shop did a test run by printing our DEMO ballots which were used in our inspector training classes and public demonstrations.

Phase 4 – After technical issues during the Primary Election, the IT Department partnered with us and the print shop to develop a program that would help all to initialize the steps for printing election ballots more efficiently and making distribution timelier. A software program was developed for generating ballots and installed on some of the PC in our office to facilitate this whole process.

Having the Print Shop do our ballot printing instead of an outside vendor has saved our department approximately \$82,564.

Phase 5 – Our staff and the IT Department worked to develop the public website for election results. They had to convert the EMS election result file into the website data. The IT Department also provided election night support with the election night returns of the machine memory cards with the election results. Once the results were in, IT converted the results not only to the website but to the Boards old election night returns system.

VOTER REGISTRATION

The qualifications for voting in New York State are as follows: 18 years of age by Election Day, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State and County for 30 days prior to election. Residents of the County are allowed to register up to 25 days prior to an election during the year. **332** voter registration forms were delivered to the Office of the Board of Elections in person.

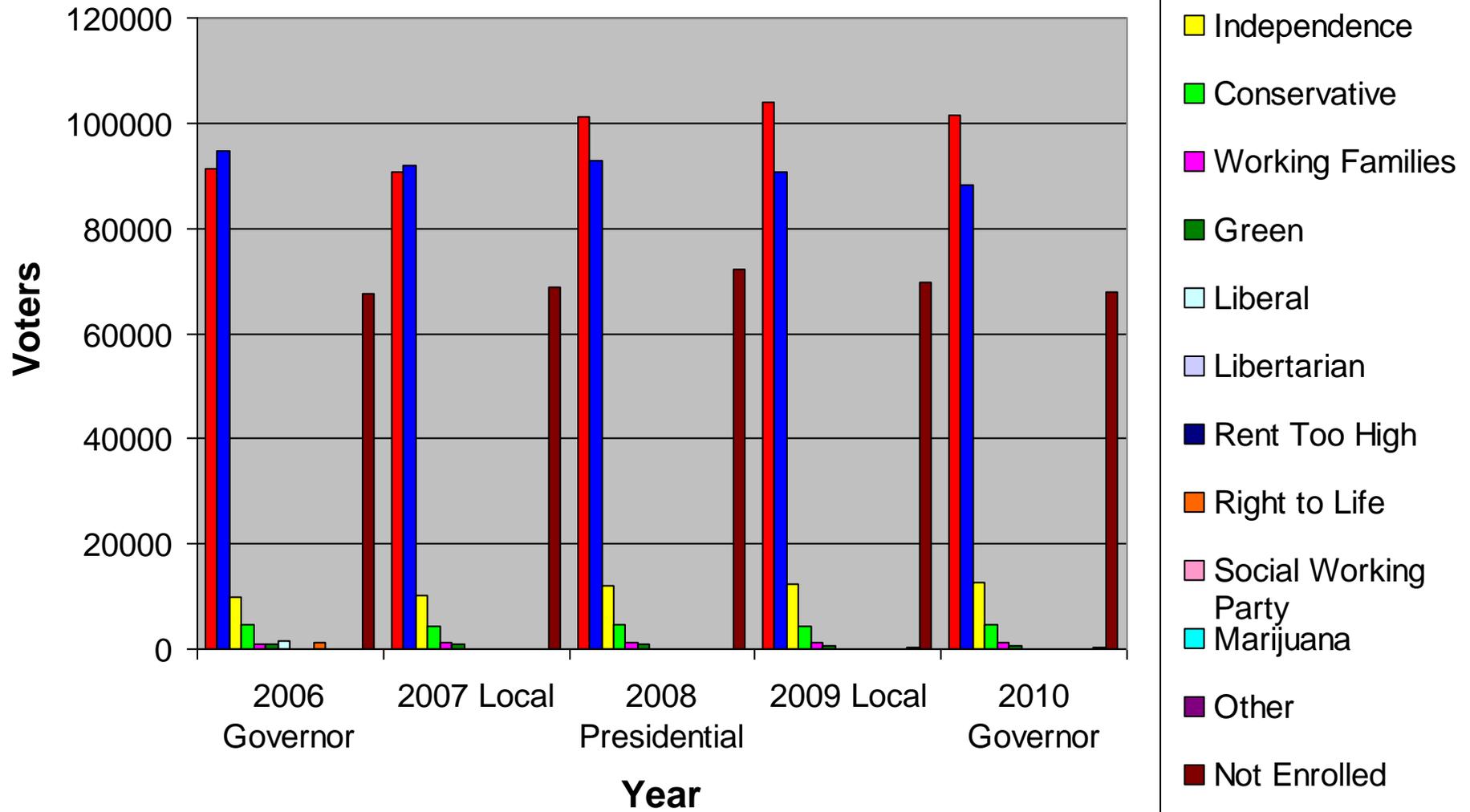
Six (6) temporary staff were hired to help our staff process all the voter registration applications received in our office for the Primary and General Elections. Our regular staff could not keep up with the incoming mail received daily. The temporary staff helped with address changes on returned mail check cards, scanning/indexing and cropping of all documents received, registering voter registration forms and answering phone calls from voters.

304,881 **(Active/Inactive)** residents of Onondaga County were registered to vote for the 2010 General Election. This number includes **27,975** inactive voters. Under the National Voter Registration Act [NVRA] a voter must be made inactive if mail sent to them is returned as undeliverable. If they remain inactive for 2 successive Federal elections, their registration will be canceled. Voters can activate themselves by voting, signing a petition or notifying the Board that they still reside at the address indicated in the Board's files.

The Board processed **19,183** registration application forms during the year. This number includes **15,958** mail registration applications and **3,225** applications received over the counter through registration drives or other types of resources. Not all of these registrations were new voters. Many of them moved from one part of Onondaga County to another.

Pursuant to the federal court decision in the Green Party case of 2005, local election boards are mandated to keep enrollment numbers for the following groups/independent bodies until 2010: Green, Libertarian, Socialist Workers, Rent Too High Party. These are independent bodies which had gubernatorial candidates on the November ballot in 2006. These independent bodies are treated as though they are recognized parties for enrollment purposes only. In 2010, there were a total of **653** Green, **115** Libertarian, **0** Socialist Workers, **0** Rent Too High and **159** other parties. (See chart #1)

Enrollment Numbers - Onondaga County



VOTER REGISTRATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Commissioners reviewed the election process with some groups during the year. They included students in the Syracuse University Newhouse School, CNY Political Leadership Institute and the Chamber of Commerce. The Board of Elections is often asked to speak at high schools and community meetings on such topics as the importance of voting; registering to vote; organizing a registration drive; and voting procedures.

Our staff demonstrated the Imagecast Voting System at town clerk's offices, festivals throughout the county (Seneca River Days), Jazz in the City, senior luncheons, and several disabled groups (Aurora, Enable and Arise).

In 2010, **15,675** registration forms were distributed to the high schools, town and village offices, various libraries and post office branches. An additional **5,645** voter registration forms were distributed to various other groups along with **612** forms mailed out to individuals upon request.

The following is a partial listing of the many diverse groups that organized registration drives:

Colleges and most area High Schools

Syracuse University, Blodgett School, Syracuse City School District, NYPIRG

Professional Associations & Labor Unions

Human Services, Community, & Neighborhood Organizations

The League of Women Voters, Organization of America; NAACP, Jazz in the City

As registration deadlines approached, press releases were faxed to all area media in August, September and October. General information faxes were also sent to local media as Election Days grew nearer informing the general public of polling hours, polling places, and phone numbers to call for questions. Public access television stations and a number of radio stations agreed to regularly broadcast registration deadlines and phone numbers at the Board of Elections to call for more information. Registration deadlines and mail registration forms were posted on our website for voters to access.

Currently, about **79%** of approximately **350,000** eligible voters (citizens' 18 years and over) are registered to vote in Onondaga County.

MAIL CHECK CARDS

Each year the Board is required to send a notice to each voter to determine if they still reside at the same address as in our files. The card also contains information that can be useful to the voter, including polling place location, dates and times for primary and general elections and information about registration and absentee voting. In 2010, **272,300** mail check cards were mailed out in late July. Of those cards, **13,002** were returned to the Board as moves within the county, moves outside of the county/state, undeliverable, post office boxes, left no forwarding address, etc. A number of these voters use post offices boxes and have not moved. The Board again used NTS Data Services to process our mail check cards.

All in-county address changes were processed before the general election which reduced affidavit voting.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Registered voters who will be outside of Onondaga County on Election Day and those who are physically unable to appear at the polls are eligible to receive absentee ballots. There are several types of absentee voters:

- A. *MILITARY*--Members of the Armed Forces and their dependents.
- B. *REGULAR*--Voters who are out of the county or ill on Election Day or Primary Day.
- C. *PERMANENTLY DISABLED*--These voters are on a permanent list and receive a ballot for each election.
- D. *SPECIAL BALLOT* - For those who are unable to vote in person due to Religious Scruples, Duties for the Board of Elections or a Victim of Domestic Violence
- E.. *SPECIAL FEDERAL*--American citizens living abroad whose last address in the states was in Onondaga County. This ballot only contains Federal offices.

In 2010 the numbers of absentees processed are as follows:

TYPE OF ABSENTEE	ELECTION DATE				Nov 2 nd ALL
	Sept 14 th		IND	CON	
	DEM	REP			
<u>Military</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	158	279	1	8	658
<i>Returned</i>	14	26	0	3	147
<u>Regular</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	178	203	0	13	3,847
<i>Returned</i>	140	162	0	2	3,439
<u>Permanent Disabled</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	690	845	5	30	2,253
<i>Returned</i>	349	433	2	16	1,637
<u>Special Ballot</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	93	105	0	0	703
<i>Returned</i>	87	89	0	0	596
<u>Special Federal</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	315	108	0	0	694
<i>Returned</i>	67	28	0	0	272
<u>TOTAL</u>					
<i>Mailed</i>	1,434	1,540	6	51	8,155
<i>Returned</i>	657	738	2	21	6,091

The total number of voters that voted in person at their polling place that had returned an absentee ballot to our office in 2010 were **9** at the September Primary and **8** at the General Election.

In 2010, the Board of Elections hand delivered ballots to nursing homes with more than five residents voting absentee. The ballots are delivered and voted under supervision of a bipartisan team from the Board. During the September Primary Election, **11** nursing homes were visited for a total of **129** ballots processed and in the General Election, **12** nursing homes were visited with a total of **258** ballots processed.

MOVE ACT OF 2009

The Military Overseas Voters Empowerment Act requires that counties make official ballot materials available electronically to military and overseas voters who request it. The State Board hired a vendor (Scytl USA) to establish a program on a secured site (www.secureballotusa.com/NY) for military and federal voters.

PAPER BALLOT COUNTING

The Board counts all non-stubbed paper ballots centrally using a Sequoia Voting System optical scanner and ballot tabulating machines. The electronic absentee counting system greatly enhances and expedites our recanvass procedures. This machine counts absentees and affidavits paper ballots. Candidates receive their official vote tally earlier and this office can certify election results with the State Board of Elections prior to the deadline.

AFFIDAVIT VOTING

Registered voters who move within Onondaga County remain registered and can vote at their new polling place on election day by affidavit ballot. We processed **238** affidavit ballots during the September 14^h primary, of which **88** were valid and **1,283** for the general elections on November 2nd, of which **1,037** were valid in 2010.

COURT ORDERS

Voters who failed to register in time for the primary or general elections can obtain a court order. Our office had lawyers from the Democratic and Republican parties available at the Board of Elections to assist voters in completing the necessary forms to present to the Supreme Court Judges on Election Day. There were **2** Court Order processed at the September 14th Primary and **42** court orders processed for the November 2nd General Election. Of those 42, 5 were denied by the Judge. After obtaining a court order, a voter is allowed to vote on the machine in their home election district.

ELECTION RESULTS

With the county now using the Imagecast voting system, many changes had to happen to receive the election results in a timely manner. Election Central was no longer needed since the Imagecast machine is equipped with a thermal tape with the election results for that polling site. Also, each voting machine has a poll worker/administrative memory card with the election results saved on it. NYS Regulation 6210 states that all poll worker/administrative memory cards must be secured at the close of polls.

After careful thought, the Commissioners decided that we needed to have Memory Card Runners on election night to go and retrieve the poll worker memory cards at all of the town polling sites. A total of 43 memory card routes were mapped out by the Commissioners. Election runners were paid \$35 per route plus mileage. All runners were to be at their first polling site at 9PM. The City of Syracuse polling sites were directed to return their poll worker memory cards with their supplies on election night. All memory cards were returned on election night by 10 PM.

The memory cards were read on the Election Management System (EMS). Once read the system provides the public, candidates, and the media with quick and accurate unofficial results on our website. Results are available within minutes of the memory cards being delivered to the Thompson Road site.

The Board requires Inspectors to return their supplies on election night. City inspectors are required to deliver their supplies directly to the Service Center located on Thompson Road. The town inspectors, however, return the black suitcases containing all the ballots and election materials to their designated areas for pickup by a trucker or machine technician for return to the Service Center. This method provides increased security for elections materials and also prevents a last minute scramble if the Board receives a Court Order to secure election materials.

CANVASS OF RESULTS

All Imagecast voting machines are recanvassed at the Service Center once all the machines have been picked up and returned. This process is completed within one day. The administrative memory cards are removed from the machines and read by the EMS. Results are then compared to the poll worker memory cards from election night.

The Commissioners oversee the counting of absentee, affidavit and military ballots. They are responsible for ruling on any questionable ballot. According to New York State Election Law, Section 10-114 increased the time for military ballots to be received at a Board of Elections from 7 days to 13 days after a General Election. Absentee ballots are not counted on election night after the polls close. Due to a court order sought by the Department of Justice, military ballots could be received until November 24th for 2010. All paper ballots were inspected and scanned with appropriate headers and end sheets. After all paper ballots were scanned, a final summary report was generated. The results were then downloaded and merged with the voting machine totals.

The paper ballot and machine results are merged and entered directly on the computer terminal. Board personnel then verify all entries. The official canvass is certified by the Commissioners and forwarded to the State Board of Elections. Bound copies of this document are printed in February and distributed to candidates and other interested parties upon request.

VOTER PARTICIPATION--2010

	NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTER'S	NUMBER VOTING	TURNOUT %
Sept. 14th Primary:			
DEM (Attorney General; US Senate-2yr; Sheriff)	100,870	11,894	12%
119 th Assembly	32,173	5,213	16%
REP (Governor/Lt. Governor; US Senate-6yr; US Senate-2yr, Sheriff (St Senate – 49 th))	87,891 26,281	17,043 5,840	20% 22%
IND (Cicero Justice)	967	82	.08%
CON (Governor)	4,427	560	13%
CON (Cicero Justice)	492	121	25%
Nov. 2nd General Election:			
All Parties	304,881*	145,477	48%
*includes 27,975 inactives			

3% AUDIT

The 3% audit was done for the Primary and General Elections for the total number of voting machines used during the elections. Using software from RANDOM.org, a draw is made at 9PM of the voting system to determine which machines will be audited. It took 4 staff members 5 days to complete the audit on 10 voting machines.

IMPOUNDMENT OF THE 25TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

An order of impoundment required all paper ballots, official tally sheets, one removable electronic memory card from each ballot scanner and returns of canvass be returned to the the Service Center on the night of November 2nd. A notice was sent to all pertinent officials of the change of the dates for the audit and recanvass due to the impoundment order. During this waiting period, our office was able to determine all valid affidavits voted at the polls and check all affidavits and absentee ballots against the poll books to make sure that the voter did not vote in their current or previous home district. The Supreme Court ordered copies of all regular absentee applications and absentee/affidavit ballots (front and back) be delivered to each campaign. Approximately 54,000 total copies were made for the 2 campaigns. On November 17th, seven bipartisan teams worked with lawyers from each campaign to review all paper ballots. This process took 3 days Over 7,000 voted ballots were reviewed and counted by November 19th.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

New York State Election Law requires all state and local candidates and committees to file electronically with the State Board of Elections. Candidates for Federal offices file with the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. Local filers who do not intend to raise or spend over \$1,000 are still required to file with our office.

Financial Disclosure training for treasurers and candidates was presented by the New York State Board of Elections on May 27th at the Onondaga County Curtain Auditorium at the Galleries in Syracuse, New York.

WEB SITE

The Board of Election's web site, which was launched in 2000, continues to thrive.

The Board and the County's Web Site Administrator jointly revised the website to improve navigational ease for the end user. We have now added pages of information and instructions for:

- Press Releases
- Election Inspectors
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Clickable button directing voters to the 2010 General Election Results
- Clickable button directing voters to education on voting machines sponsored by the State Board of Elections (VoteNY.Com)
- Clickable button for Military and Overseas Voters (MOVE ACT) providing them with on-line ballot access

The polling place locator feature is now updated as frequently as necessary through the updated web table builder from the vendor.

We continue to place an emphasis on educating the public as to those services available through the internet, and the ease in obtaining necessary forms and instructions. Callers continue to be informed of their options when requesting forms.

LONG RANGE GOALS

After participating in the ImageCast pilot project in 2009, it became apparent that we needed to consolidate our operations into one facility.

We reached out to the County Executive and the leadership of the County Legislature and convinced them to find a building for us.

After looking at many pieces of property, a building that met our needs was found and purchased at the end of October. The building is located at 1000 Erie Blvd, West.

The building will house everything we have in the service center and the civic center. The building will have a training room where we will be able to conduct all of our inspector classes. We also plan to use the training center as a polling place.

Having our entire operation in one place will provide a more efficient use of our staff time. We will no longer need to send staff back and forth between two buildings. Moving our offices out of the immediate downtown area will also improve access for voters needing to register or pick up an absentee ballot. The new building will have parking available right outside the front door.

If everything goes as planned, we should be moving into our new space sometime in late May.