

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY**

No. 2 of 2026

President Judge Administrative Order

**In re: ELECTION DAY JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS
 2026 Primary Election - Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

ORDER

AND NOW, this 8th day of April, 2026, the following Election Court assignments are made, which shall supersede other assignments during the scheduled Election Court hours only.

I. PETITIONS TO WITHDRAW.

Any Petition filed after March 25, 2026, by or on behalf of a candidate for leave to withdraw the candidate's name for nomination shall be filed with the Office of Judicial Records and shall be assigned to President Judge Nina Wright Padilla or her nominee.

II. ELECTION COURT - COURTROOM - STOUT CENTER

Courtroom 1107 Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice, 1301 Filbert Street, Philadelphia, PA will be the central location for all records of the Registration Division, Board of Elections and the Office of Judicial Records (formerly "Prothonotary") on May 19, 2026. Election Court will convene at 7:00 AM and will remain open continuously until 10:00 PM (Phone: 215-683-7442).

Judges assigned to the Election Court will have jurisdiction over all election matters, and shall, as provided in 25 P.S. § 3046:

- **act as a committing magistrate for any violation of the election laws;**
- **settle summarily controversies that may arise with respect to the conduct of the election;**
- **issue process, if necessary, to enforce and secure compliance with the election laws;**
- **decide such other matters pertaining to the election as may be necessary to carry out the intent of the Election Code; and**
- **when an individual is seeking a judicial order to vote, inform the individual of the provisional ballot process set forth in 25 P.S. § 3050. Section 3050 provides, *inter alia*:**
 - **an individual who claims to be properly registered and eligible to vote at the election district but whose name does not appear on the district register and whose registration cannot be determined by the inspectors of election, or the county election board shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot.**
 - **Prior to voting the provisional ballot, the elector shall be required to execute an affidavit which must be signed by the voter, the Judge of Election and minority inspector. *See* 25 P.S. § 3050(a.4)(2).**

• After the provisional ballot has been cast, the individual shall place it in a secrecy envelope. The individual shall place the secrecy envelope in the provisional ballot envelope and shall place his signature on the front of the provisional ballot envelope. See 25 P.S. § 3050(a.4)(3).

III. THE FOLLOWING JUDGES ARE ASSIGNED:

	<u>Judge</u>	<u>Courtroom</u>
7 AM to 12:00 PM	Honorable Crystal Bryant Powell	1107 Stout Center
12:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Honorable Elvin Ross	1107 Stout Center
5:00 PM to 10:00 PM	Honorable Michele Hangley	1107 Stout Center

IV. STANDBY ASSIGNMENTS

Should the designated Judge be unavailable, the President Judge will designate an alternative Judge to preside in Central Election Court.

SCHEDULING AND HEARING PROTOCOL

The following Protocol shall be followed when a hearing is requested:

- 1) The assigned Judges and other necessary personnel (Court Clerk, Court Crier, Court Reporter, Sheriff) shall be present in-person in the assigned Courtroom between 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM.
- 2) Unless the assigned Judge directs otherwise, counsel must appear in-person. Witnesses are encouraged to testify through Zoom.
- 3) No cameras or recording devices are permitted in the Courtroom.
- 4) All requests for hearings must be communicated to the Office of Judicial Records (“OJR”). OJR personnel shall be stationed in the Election Courtroom of the Stout Center from 7:00 AM until 10:00 PM and shall direct the parties to the appropriate Courtroom upon confirming the availability of all parties in interest. Parties who are to participate through Zoom shall be provided the Zoom link by the Court.
- 5) The assigned Judge may proceed with the hearing by taking testimony and may require the filing of written pleadings, as necessary.
- 6) The public shall be permitted to attend election hearings in the courtroom where hearings are being held.
- 7) Judicial proceedings cannot be recorded, transmitted or broadcast by anyone. The parties are specifically informed that:

It is unlawful and a criminal offense to record, transmit or broadcast video, audio or photograph of any judicial proceeding and violators may be found to be in contempt of court and may be criminally charged with a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of up to two years for a first offense. See Pa.R.J.A 1910, Pa.R.Crim.P. 112 and 18 Pa.C.S. § 5103.1.

V. ELECTION BOARD PETITIONS

Petitions to Fill Vacancies in Election Boards (judge of election, majority inspector, minority inspector) must be electronically filed no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, through the Court’s electronic filing website at: www.courts.phila.gov pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. No. 205.4 and Philadelphia Civil Rule *205.4. Assistance with electronic filing shall be provided through the Office of Judicial Records (formerly “Prothonotary”) by calling (215) 686-4251, or by emailing OJR_Civil@courts.phila.gov.

The Petitioner shall serve the City Commissioners and the Democratic/Republican City Committees, as applicable, as provided in the Order to Show Cause.

Hearings on the *Petitions to Fill Vacancies in Election Boards* will be held in Courtroom 1107 on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., President Judge Nina Wright Padilla or her designee presiding. Unless terminated earlier as provided by law, the term of office of any person appointed to fill a vacancy in the Election Board shall continue for the remainder of the vacancy.

*This Election Schedule is available on the First Judicial District Website at: <http://www.courts.phila.gov>.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Nina Wright Padilla

**Nina Wright Padilla, President Judge
Court of Common Pleas**