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June 24, 2020

Mrs. Janice Gilley County Administrator Escambia County 221 Palafox Place Pensacola, FL 32502

Dear Janice:

Due to the ongoing pandemic we have experienced a reduction in available election workers for the August 18 and November 3 elections. Our Election Day workforce is comprised primarily of people over 65 years of age, one of the risk factors in COVID 19. Because of this, we are reaching out for your assistance.

Last week Governor DeSantis issued an Executive Order to provide some relief for elections offices around the state. He included a provision in Section 2 to aid elections offices with state and local resources. The governor's order allows for administrative leave for training and Election Day for state employees and encourages counties to offer the same. I ask you to consider making this available to Escambia County employees and offering the benefits the governor has outlined. We normally pay a small stipend to our election workers, which may serve as an extra incentive for employees to participate.

Our current training structure provides a series of online videos and quizzes to reduce the amount of inperson class time. We will have a formal two hour in-person class and offer lab hours of up to two hours for those individuals who are working with election equipment for the first time. Upon completion of training, workers are assigned to a polling location for Election Day. Workers are expected to arrive no later than 6 a.m. and stay until after the polls close at 7 p.m. and all the supplies are packed, and ballot totals reconciled.

Included is a copy of the election worker application and a copy of the Executive Order. Potential workers should complete the application and return it to Traci Bradford at pollworker@escambiavotes.com or via U.S. Mail so that we can begin training and placement. Time is critical. We have already begun phase 1 of our training and phase 2 begins on July 7. We would like to have employees placed in these classes as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

David H. Stafford