

2020 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW



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A screenshot of the website www.alalm.org. The page features a navigation menu with links for 'About Us', 'Legislative Advocacy', 'Legal Services', 'Training & Resources', 'Publications & Advertising', and 'Insurance/Financial Services'. The main content area displays a banner for 'ALABAMA REPORTS' with the text 'Educating and Advising Officials and Employees on Municipal Law'. Below the banner is a 'Quick Links' section with six icons and labels: 'Municipal Election Information', 'Municipal Directory', 'Legal Department', 'Advocacy', 'Municipal Marketplace', and 'Journal Archives'. The background of the banner shows several volumes of 'ALABAMA REPORTS'.

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Municipal Election Information

Municipal Election Information

[2020 Election Calendar and Election Manual](#)

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What Every Potential Candidate Should Know About Municipal Government

On August 25, 2020, most Alabama municipalities will hold elections for the mayor and council. While candidates cannot officially qualify to be on the ballot until July 7, 2020, many candidates have already announced their intention to run for municipal office and have started their campaigns. The Alabama League of Municipalities prepares a manual titled *Procedures for Holding Elections in Mayor-Council Municipalities* which covers issues related to campaigning and holding a municipal election. Included in the manual is an elections calendar outlining all of the important dates relating to the election process. This manual will be available for download on the League's website: www.alalm.org after November 15, 2019. Over the next several issues of the Municipal Journal, the League Legal Department will explore various issues relating to municipal elections and the election process.

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Municipal Election Calendar

Prepared by the Alabama League of Municipalities | www.alalm.org | 334-262-2566



Procedures for Holding Elections in Mayor - Council Municipalities



AN ALABAMA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

SPECIAL REPORT

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Where to Get Help



- Municipal Clerks
- **SOS**
- Attorney General
- **Probate Judge**
- Board of Registrars
- **Election Equipment Supplier (ESS, county, etc.)**
- League

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IMPORTANT DATES



- February 25th – Last day to change salaries
- July 2nd – Last day to establish qualification fees
- July 7th - Candidates can officially qualify
- July 21st – Last day to Qualify
- July 28th - Absentee balloting starts
- **Aug. 25th – Election Day**
- September 1st – Canvassing results
- **October 6th – Run-off Election Day**
- November 2nd – Officials Take Office

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IMPORTANT DATES: Fair Campaign Practices Act



FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT (FCPA) DEADLINES

(FCPA forms are available from the Probate Judge or the Secretary of State and can be downloaded at www.sos.alabama.gov)

All FCPA forms for municipal elections must be filed with the PROBATE JUDGE in the county where the city hall of the municipality is located. Every candidate must establish a PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (PCC) by filing the required form WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS OF BECOMING A CANDIDATE regardless of whether the candidate has reached the \$1,000.00 threshold. A person becomes a candidate whenever he or she either (1) reaches the disclosure threshold by either raising or spending in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or (2) formally qualifies to run for office.

For questions regarding the FCPA, call the Secretary of State's Election Division at 334-242-7210. Be sure to say "I have a question about the FCPA".

AUGUST 25, 2019: First day candidates for municipal elections can raise or spend money. §17-5-7(b)(2).

Once a candidate reaches the disclosure threshold by raising or spending in excess of \$1,000*, the PCC must file disclosure reports as follows:

MONTHLY CAMPAIGN REPORT DEADLINES:

SEPTEMBER 4, 2019	MARCH 3, 2020
OCTOBER 2, 2019	APRIL 2, 2020
NOVEMBER 4, 2019	MAY 4, 2020
DECEMBER 3, 2019	JUNE 2, 2020 (If the county is closed for Jefferson Davis' Birthday, the deadline is June 3, 2020)
JANUARY 3, 2020	JULY 2, 2020
FEBRUARY 4, 2020	

WEEKLY CAMPAIGN REPORT DEADLINES:

(A candidate who is required to file a weekly report is not also required to file a monthly report the month of the election.)

AUGUST 3, 2020	AUGUST 17, 2020
AUGUST 10, 2020	AUGUST 24, 2020

ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE:

JANUARY 31, 2021

* Major Contribution Report - candidates must disclose the receipt of any single contribution of \$20,000 or more within 60 (2-business days) of receiving the contribution if it is not included in a monthly or weekly report. §17-5-8.(1)(c).

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IMPORTANT DATES: League Orientation Sessions



- Birmingham – Oct. 21-22, 2020
- Mobile – Oct. 26-27, 2020
- Huntsville – Nov. 5-6, 2020
- Montgomery – Nov. 12-13, 2020

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Changes to Election Laws from 2019 Legislative Session



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Voter Registration Deadline



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Statement of Economic Interests - Candidates



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Photographing Ballots



- Act 2019-
- Class A municipalities are prohibited from photographing a ballot, or to reveal another voter's ballot, or to reveal another voter's ballot, or to reveal another voter's ballot."
- OK to photograph a ballot, or to reveal another voter's ballot, or to reveal another voter's ballot."



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Absentee Voter I.D.



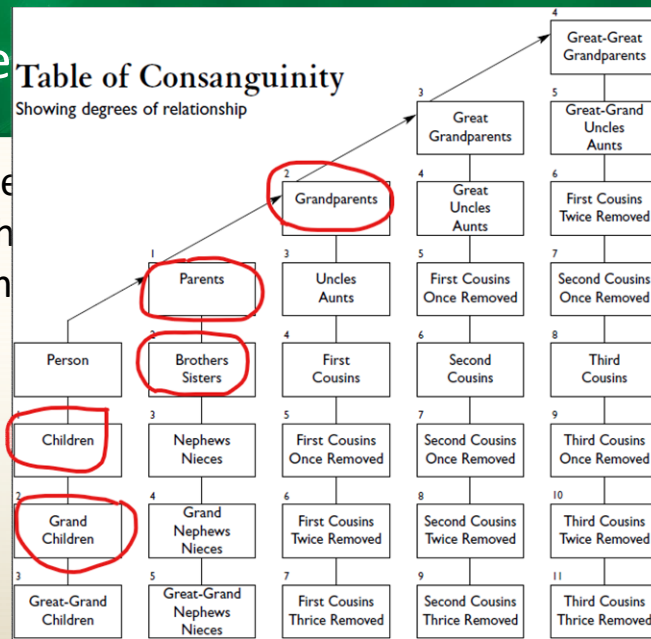
- Act 2019-507
- Prior: voter submitted I.D. with the Ballot
- Voter now submits I.D. with the Application
- “an absentee ballot **shall not** be issued unless the required identification is submitted with the absentee ballot application.”

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Table of Consanguinity

Showing degrees of relationship

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- th
- m



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Real

- Person not turp

CRIMES INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE

Pursuant to Code of Alabama (1975) Section 17-3-30.1

- Murder – Section 13A-5-40 (A) 1-19
- Murder (Non-Capital, Reckless, Felony Murder, etc.) – Section 13A-6-2
- Manslaughter – Section 13A-6-3 Exceptions: 13A-6-20 (A) (5) and 13A-6-21
- Assault 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-20
- Assault 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-21
- Kidnapping 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-43
- Kidnapping 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-44
- Rape 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-61
- Rape 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-62
- Sodomy 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-63
- Sodomy 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-64
- Sexual Torture – Section 13A-6-65.1
- Sexual Abuse 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-66
- Sexual Abuse 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-67
- Sexual Abuse of a child less than 12 years old – Section 13A-6-69.1
- Enticing a child to enter a vehicle, house, etc. for immoral purposes – Section 13A-6-69
- Facilitating solicitation of unlawful sexual conduct with a child – Section 13A-6-121
- Electronic solicitation of a child – Section 13A-6-122
- Facilitating the on-line solicitation of a child – Section 13A-6-123
- Traveling to meet a child for an unlawful sex act – Section 13A-6-124
- Facilitating the travel of a child for an unlawful sex act – Section 13A-6-125
- Human Trafficking 1st Degree – Section 13A-6-152
- Human Trafficking 2nd Degree – Section 13A-6-153
- Terrorism – Section 13A-10-152
- Soliciting or providing support for an act of terrorism – Section 13A-10-153
- Hindering prosecution of terrorism – Section 13A-10-154
- Endangering the water supply – Section 13A-10-171
- Possession, manufacture, transport, or distribution of a destructive device or bacteriological weapon, or biological weapon – Section 13A-10-193
- Selling, furnishing, giving away, delivering, or distribution of a destructive device, a bacteriological weapon, or biological weapon to a person who is less than 21 years of age – Section 13A-10-194
- Possession, manufacture, transport, or distribution of a detonator, explosive, poison, or hoax device – Section 13A-10-195
- Possession or distribution of a hoax device represented as a destructive device or weapon – Section 13A-10-196 (c)
- Attempt to commit an explosives or destructive device or bacteriological or biological weapons crime – Section 13A-10-197
- Conspiracy to commit an explosives or destructive device or bacteriological or biological weapons crime – Section 13A-10-198
- Hindrance or obstruction during detection, disarming, or destruction of a destructive device or weapon – Section 13A-10-199
- Possession or distribution of a destructive device or weapon intended to cause injury or destruction – Section 13A-10-200
- Treason – Section 13A-11-2
- Dissemination or public display of obscene matter containing visual depiction of persons under 17 years of age involved in obscene acts – Section 13A-12-191
- Possession and possession with intent to disseminate obscene matter containing visual depiction of persons under 17 years of age involved in obscene acts – Section 13A-12-192
- Parents or guardians permitting children to engage in production of obscene matter – Section 13A-12-196
- Production of obscene matter containing visual depiction of persons under 17 years of age involved in obscene acts – Section 13A-12-197
- Distribution, possession with intent to distribute, production of obscene material, or offer or agreement to distribute or produce – Section 13A-12-200.2
- Trafficking in cannabis, cocaine, or other illegal drugs or trafficking in amphetamine and methamphetamine – Section 13A-12-231
- Bigamy – Section 13A-13-1
- Incest – Section 13A-13-3
- Torture or other willful maltreatment of a child under the age of 18 – Section 26-15-3
- Aggravated child abuse – Section 26-15-3.1
- Prohibited acts in the offer, sale, or purchase of securities – Section 8-6-17
- Burglary 1st Degree – Section 13A-7-5
- Burglary 2nd Degree – Section 13A-7-6
- Theft of Property 1st Degree – Section 13A-8-3
- Theft of Property 2nd Degree – Section 13A-8-4
- Theft of Lost Property 1st Degree – Section 13A-8-7
- Theft of Lost Property 2nd Degree – Section 13A-8-8
- Theft of trademarks or trade secrets – Section 13A-8-10.4
- Robbery 1st Degree – Section 13A-8-41
- Robbery 2nd Degree – Section 13A-8-42
- Robbery 3rd Degree – Section 13A-8-43
- Forgery 1st Degree – Section 13A-9-2
- Forgery 2nd Degree – Section 13A-9-3
- Aggravated Theft by Deception – Section 13A-8-2.1
- Any crime as defined by the laws of the United States or by the laws of another state, territory, country, or other jurisdiction, which, if committed in this state, would constitute one of the offenses listed in this subsection.



- Person has moral 1.

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Emergency Absentee

- Person required by employer under unforeseen circumstances within 5 days of election to be unavailable to vote at the polls on election day
- Person is a caregiver of a person who requires emergency treatment by a licensed physician within 5 days of the election
- Person has a family member to the second degree of kinship who dies within 5 days of the election



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List of Absentee Voters



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Disabled Voters



- Act 2019-359
- **SOS to establish procedures for permanent absentee status**
- Signed and notarized by primary physician

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2020 Legislative Session



- League bill re: SEI for 2020 Municipal Elections
- SOS Run-off bill – shorten time to 4 weeks to parallel state
- League/SOS – back up qualification into June to allow for plenty of time to prepare ballots

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QUESTIONS?



Call the League Legal Department!
(334)262-2566

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