

# Official Notice of Election for Military and Overseas Voters Philadelphia County

2021 Municipal and Special Election  
November 2, 2021

This is an official notice of an election to be conducted on 11/02/2021 in Philadelphia County. You may register to vote and request an official absentee ballot by using the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA), available at the Philadelphia City Commissioners' website at [www.philadelphiavotes.com](http://www.philadelphiavotes.com). Additionally, you can find this form at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com) or [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). You may apply for an absentee ballot by submitting your FPCA by fax to (215) 686-3398, or by email to [phillyelection@phila.gov](mailto:phillyelection@phila.gov).

You may request an absentee ballot from this office at any time prior to a primary or election. However, if time does not permit you to receive and return an official absentee ballot, you are also entitled to vote using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB). Military electors may also use the FWAB to register to vote and vote simultaneously.

You may use the FWAB to vote for all state and local offices, and ballot initiatives.

To vote, refer to page 1 of the FWAB.

To vote for state and local offices or for ballot initiatives, write the names of candidates or ballot initiatives in the Addendum section of the FWAB. Under the **Office/Ballot Initiative** heading, enter the office for which the candidate is running or the title of the Ballot Initiative (referendum). Under the **Candidate Name, Party Affiliation or Initiative Vote** heading, list the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote, or if you are voting on a Retention or Referendum question write "yes" or "no".

For a listing of candidates, please visit: <https://www.philadelphiavotes.com/en/voters/candidates-for-office>

## **BALLOT**

**JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT** – Vote for One – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT** – Vote for One – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT** – Vote for not more than Two – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS** – Vote for not more than 12 – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT** – Vote for not more than Five – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY** – Vote for One – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**CITY CONTROLLER** – Vote for One – All Wards & Divisions within Philadelphia County

**JUDGE OF ELECTION** – Vote for One – Elected by Ward & Division

**INSPECTOR OF ELECTION** – Vote for One – Elected by Ward & Division

**JUDICIAL RETENTIONS** – Vote “Yes” or “No”

*See the judicial retentions in the section below*

**PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGE QUESTIONS** – Vote “Yes” or “No”

*See the ballot questions in the section below*

For a listing of candidates, please visit: <https://www.philadelphiavotes.com/en/voters/candidates-for-office>

## **JUDICIAL RETENTIONS**

### **SUPERIOR COURT**

**Shall the Judges listed below be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?**

- John T Bender
- Mary Jane Bowes

### **COMMONWEALTH COURT**

**Shall the Judges listed below be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Commonwealth Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?**

- Anne E Covey
- Renee Cohn Jubelirer

### **COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

**Shall the Judges listed below be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District, Philadelphia County?**

- Diana L Anhalt
- Denis P Cohen
- Rose Marie Defino-Nastasi
- Charles A Ehrlich
- Angelo J Foglietta
- Jonathan Q Irvine
- Elizabeth Jackson
- Vincent L Johnson
- Sean F Kennedy
- Barbara A McDermott
- Margaret T Murphy
- George W Overton
- Edward C Wright

### **MUNICIPAL COURT**

**Shall the Judges listed below be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Municipal Court, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District, Philadelphia County?**

- Frank T Brady
- Patrick Dugan
- Charles Hayden
- Christine M Hope
- Sharon Williams Losier
- Joffie C Pittman III
- Craig M Washington

# **PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGE QUESTIONS**

## **Question #1**

**Submitted to the Voters by:**

**Bill No. 210206 (approved June 23, 2021)**

**Resolution No. 210215 (adopted June 17, 2021)**

### **Ballot Question:**

Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to call upon the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Governor to pass legislation that would decriminalize, regulate, and tax the use, and sale to adults aged 21 years or older, of cannabis for non-medical purposes?

### **Statement:**

If you vote “Yes” on this ballot question, it means you want to change the City’s Charter so that it includes a statement urging the Pennsylvania legislature and governor to adopt laws to allow Pennsylvanians aged 21 years and older access to marijuana outside the state-licensed medical marijuana program. The statement would say that the use and sale of marijuana by adults for non-medical purposes should no longer be a crime and should be subject to regulation and tax by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## **Question #2**

**Submitted to the Voters by:**

**Bill No. 200075 (approved July 15, 2021)**

**Resolution No. 200079 (adopted June 17, 2021)**

### **Ballot Question:**

Shall the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to establish and define the functions of a Department of Fleet Services, headed by a Commissioner, to manage all City-owned motor vehicles and City programs concerning alternative vehicle fuel initiatives?

### **Statement:**

The City's Home Rule Charter is like the City's constitution; it sets up the rules for City government.

The City Charter currently establishes responsibility for the City's purchase, maintenance and allocation of City vehicles among the Department of Public Property, the Procurement Department and a Board made up of the Mayor, the Finance Director and the Managing Director. For several decades, most of these responsibilities have been delegated by Executive Order to an Office of Fleet Management.

If you vote "Yes" on this ballot question, it means you want to change the City's Charter so that it establishes a new department, called the Department of Fleet Management, which would manage the acquisition, repair, maintenance and disposal of City vehicles and vehicle-related equipment. The new Department would assign such vehicles and equipment to City departments. It would also manage City fueling sites and City programs concerning vehicles run on alternative fuels.

### **Question #3**

**Submitted to the Voters by:**

**Bill No. 210501 (approved July 15, 2021)**

**Resolution No. 210514 (adopted June 17, 2021)**

#### **Ballot Question:**

Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to revise provisions related to the civil service system, to allow the Personnel Director to determine the number of people on an eligible list from which a hiring or promotion decision may be made, and to determine the number of times a person may be passed over and remain eligible on such a list, all based on the position and the needs of the civil service program?

#### **Statement:**

To apply for most City jobs, an applicant is required to take part in a civil service assessment for a particular type of job. Applicants are then ranked based on the scores they receive. Currently, when a department head wishes to fill an open position for a job type, the department head can pick only from the two top- scoring applicants. The applicant not picked from among the top two remains on the scoring list for future consideration for the same type of job, but cannot be scheduled for an interview with the same department more than twice.

If you vote “yes” on this ballot question, that means you approve of the following two changes to this process.

First, instead of requiring the department head to choose between the top two applicants on a list, the City’s Personnel Director would be allowed to decide how many applicants the department head may choose from, based on the type of job and the needs of the City’s civil service system.

Second, instead of establishing a specific number for how often an applicant can be considered by a department, the Personnel Director would be allowed to decide how many times an applicant can be interviewed by a specific department, based on the type of job and the needs of the civil service system.

## **Question #4**

**Submitted to the Voters by:**

**Bill No. 210507 (approved August 26, 2021)**

**Resolution No. 210524 (adopted June 17, 2021)**

### **Ballot Question:**

Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for a mandatory annual appropriation for the Housing Trust Fund?

### **Statement:**

The City's Home Rule Charter is like the City's constitution; it sets up the rules for City government. Under the City Charter, City Council must adopt a budget for the City every year. Council decides in the budget how much money each City department may spend in the upcoming year. Council also decides some of the general purposes the money can be spent on, such as hiring employees or purchasing equipment.

This ballot question asks whether you want to change the Charter to require Council to set aside a certain amount of money in the budget every year for various housing programs. This would include building affordable housing; making it easier for disabled people to live in or visit affordable housing; and reducing homelessness.

If this ballot question is approved, Council would be required to set aside for these programs an amount equal to one half of a percent (0.5%) of the City's "General Fund appropriations." General Fund appropriations includes most of the money designated for general City operations, paid for mostly by taxes that have no other restrictions on how the money is spent. If this proposal had been in place this year, Council would have been required to set aside approximately \$25 million dollars for the housing programs, in addition to money required by other existing laws to be spent on such programs.

This minimum amount would not be allowed to be used for any other purpose unless there was an emergency need to use it elsewhere.