

Legal Services of New Jersey
100 Metroplex Drive at Plainfield Avenue
P.O. Box 1357
Edison, New Jersey 08818-1357

Contact: Harvey Fisher
Office Phone: 732-529-8430
Cell Phone: 908-616-9941
E-mail: hfisher@lsnj.org

FOR RELEASE AT WILL

Sept 2020

**LEGAL SERVICES NEWSLETTER FOCUSES ON
NEW JERSEY'S MOVE TO MAINLY MAIL VOTING**

EDISON — The latest newsletter from Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) highlights what voters need to know in casting ballots — primarily mail ballots — in the Nov. 3 presidential election.

The bilingual publication, “Looking Out For Your Legal Rights,” is accessible online at www.lsnjlaw.org.

The newsletter notes that while Nov. 3 is the most important date to keep in mind, many New Jerseyans who are not yet registered have an Oct. 13 deadline to do so. For registration forms, they may contact their local county board of elections or the New Jersey Board of Elections at www.nj.gov/state/elections/index.shtml.

Ballots will be mailed to active, registered voters 29 days before the election. They can be completed and submitted any time before the election, but must be postmarked no later than Nov. 3 and received by the election board no later than Nov. 10.

There will be no sample ballots. The material that voters receive in the mail will contain location of polling places and ballot drop boxes, as well as other informative material.

As an alternative to mailing back the ballots, each county in New Jersey will have 10 ballot drop off boxes. Ballots can also be dropped at the designated polling place, for which there will be at least one such location in each municipality.

Those who arrive at a polling place without a vote-by-mail ballot will be given a paper or provisional ballot, which will be counted once eligibility is verified. Poll workers cannot tell a would-be voter to leave without voting.

Meanwhile, the latest LSNJ newsletter provides information on a variety of other issues, including the rights of tenants facing possible evictions and how they may prepare or deal with possible settlement conferences with landlords. Under an executive order recently issued by President Trump, there is a moratorium on evictions until the end of this year. That action supersedes an Oct. 2 moratorium previously issued by Gov. Phil Murphy. In either case the rental arrears eventually must be paid.

A somewhat related article spells out how landlords under state law must store for a reasonable time personal property left behind by a former tenant, even if the tenant had been evicted. The landlord, though, could collect reasonable storage costs.

Another article details what parents should be aware of when dealing with investigations by the state Division of Child Protection and Permanency into alleged abuse and neglect. Parents in such situations are advised to know their rights and not be pressured into making hasty decisions that might adversely affect future options to keep the family together.

Finally, there's an article in the newsletter explaining the options available to people who were eligible to receive stimulus checks under the federal CARES Act but have not received the payment.

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ), located in Edison, heads the state's Legal Services system, a network of five independent non-profit corporations and has been providing free essential legal aid in civil matters to low-income people through offices in all 21 counties for more than 50 years. Since its inception, LSNJ has provided representation in more than 2.4 million cases.

#####