

**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

**We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.**

The League of Women Voters of Delaware is very disappointed with the recent Delaware Supreme Court ruling that made vote by mail and same day registration unconstitutional. To help you navigate voting now, this issue contains links and information regarding ways you can vote in November. This is an important election because all the seats in the General Assembly are up for re-election. Delaware's future is in your hands.

## WAYS TO VOTE IN DELAWARE 2022

There are many new ways to vote in the primary and the general election this year. You can vote early, vote absentee, or go to the polls. Just open the links below to find out how.

1. **Early Voting:** Beginning in 2022, Delaware voters can vote ten days prior to Election Day. Launch the link to find early voting sites and dates [Early voting sites and dates](#). Plan an event with family and friends to vote together and then go out and celebrate. See page two for details.
2. **Absentee Voting:** Delaware voters can vote absentee if they are sick or disabled, in the military, a college student, on vacation, incarcerated, or at work, including providing constant care at home for a child, spouse, or parent. Launch the link to find out how you can request an absentee ballot. [absentee voting](#). You can also go to [ivote Delaware](#) to request an absentee ballot and check the status of your absentee ballot.
3. **Vote at the polls:** Go to [ivote Delaware](#) and enter your address to find your polling place. Your polling place might have changed due to redistricting and polling modifications made by the Department of Elections.

## NEW UPDATED VOTER GUIDE FROM THE DVRC

The Delaware Voting Rights Coalition, of which LWVDE is a key member, has released a handy guide on how to vote in the Delaware general election on November 8.



**Just click on the [blue link](#) to access the guide.**

[Voter Guide \(English\)](#)

[Voter Guide \(Spanish\)](#)

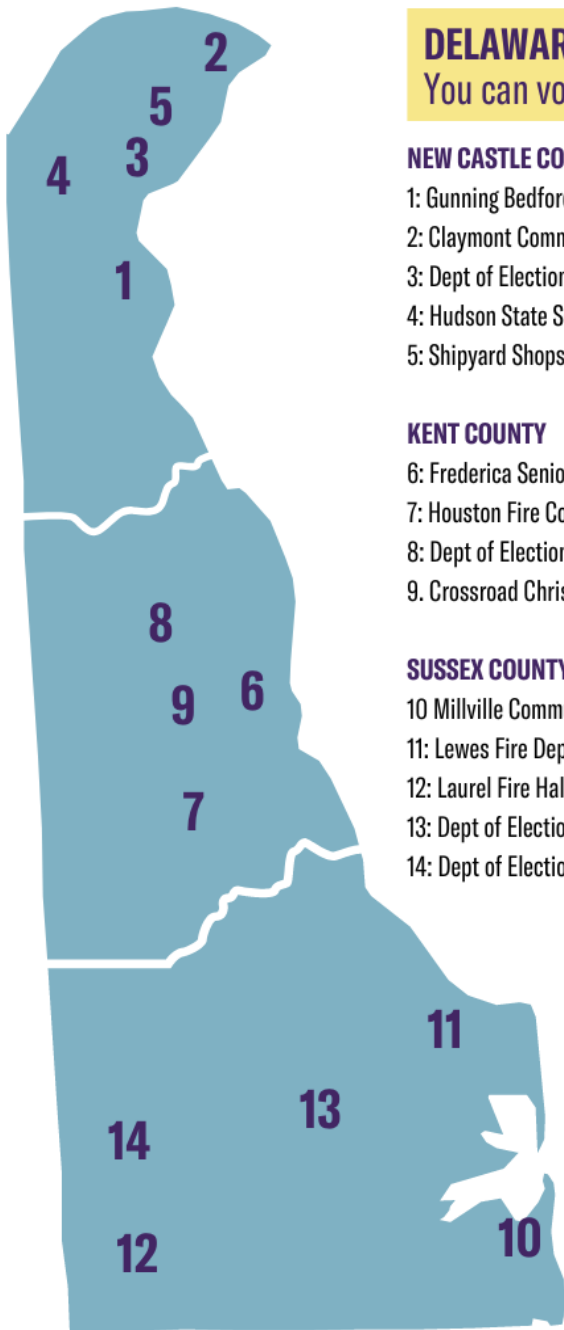
Also, do not forget to check out [vote411](#)

<https://www.vote411.org/> to find out what is on your ballot, and your candidate's views on important issues.

**Please share with family and friends.**

*Jill Itzkowitz, Election Chair*

(Continued on page 2 **VOTING**)



## DELAWARE EARLY VOTING SITES

You can vote at any early voting site in your county!

### NEW CASTLE COUNTY

- 1: Gunning Bedford Middle School: 801 Cox Neck Rd, New Castle DE 19720
- 2: Claymont Community Center: 3301 Green St, Claymont DE 19703
- 3: Dept of Elections-Warehouse (New Castle): 220 Lisa Dr, New Castle DE 19720
- 4: Hudson State Service Center: 501 Ogletown Rd, Newark DE 19711
- 5: Shipyard Shops: 912 Justison St, Wilmington DE 19801

### KENT COUNTY

- 6: Frederica Senior Center: 216 Market St, Frederica, DE 19946
- 7: Houston Fire Company: 143 Broad St, Houston DE 19954
- 8: Dept of Elections-Kent County Office: 100 Enterprise Place Suite 5, Dover DE 19904
- 9: Crossroad Christian Church: 4867 N. Dupont Hwy, Dover DE 19901

### SUSSEX COUNTY

- 10 Millville Community Center: 32517 Dukes Drive, Millville DE 19967
- 11: Lewes Fire Department Station #2: 32198 Janice Rd, Lewes DE 19958
- 12: Laurel Fire Hall: 205 W. 10th St, Laurel DE 19956
- 13: Dept of Elections-Warehouse (Georgetown): 542 South Bedford St, Georgetown DE 19947
- 14: Dept of Elections-Warehouse (Seaford): 200 Allen St, Seaford DE 19973

Early voting is open from Friday, October 28 through Tuesday, November 1, 11 AM - 7 PM

and Wednesday, November 2 through Sunday, November 6, 7 AM - 7 PM.



Learn more about early voting:  
[bit.ly/dvrcvoterguide](https://bit.ly/dvrcvoterguide)

## The Delaware League of Women Voters' online education resource:



Vote411, is now available for the November 8 General Election. This is an important election because all 21 Senate Seats and 41 House seats are on the ballot.

Just go to <https://www.vote411.org/> and enter your address to find your specific districts and candidates. To find other races in Delaware use this link <https://onyourballot.vote411.org/race-index.do?c=31357907>.

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If your candidates had not responded to our Vote411 survey, email them asking for their participation.

Promote Vote411 to your friends and family. Here is a graphic you can use to post on Facebook.



I would like to thank the following members for their assistance- Linda Barnett, Kim Wells, Joyce Ford, Judy Parkins, Carol Conroy, Janice Heinessen, Dina Silber, Marjorie Green, Peggy Schultz, Sharon Kwiatkowski, Lauren Hansen, Letty Diswood, Patti Christopher, Karen Barker, Carol Villa, Carmel Walters, Ida Rowe, Mary Lee Jenkins, Christine Gillian, Marj Johnson, and Maria Cordonnier. Great job team!

### LWVDE STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT RULING FROM STATE MEMBER JACK YOUNG

## DELAWARE SUPREME COURT DECLARES VOTE BY MAIL AND SAME DAY REGISTRATION UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

The Delaware Supreme Court on December 7<sup>th</sup> decided that vote by mail and same-day registration laws passed by the General Assembly in June are unconstitutional. The decision is three pages long with a longer opinion to follow shortly. The decision prevents the Department of Elections from sending out ballots, which it intended to start on October 10<sup>th</sup>. For the vote by mail (VBM) law, the Court found that the legislation “impermissibly expands the categories of absentee voters identified” in the state constitution. Interestingly, while the Chancery Court ruled the VBM law unconstitutional, the Vice Chancellor upheld the same day registration legislation. The Supreme Court, however, also declared that law unconstitutional.

The Court held:

1. The Vote-by-Mail Statute impermissibly expands the categories of absentee voters identified in Article V, Section 4A of the Delaware Constitution. Therefore, the judgment of the Court of Chancery that the Vote-by-Mail Statute violates the Delaware Constitution should be affirmed.
2. The Same-Day Registration Statute conflicts with the provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the Delaware Constitution. Consequently, the judgment of the Court of Chancery that the Same-Day Registration Statute does not violate the Delaware Constitution should be reversed.

The Court’s decision means that advocates of VBM and same day registration will return to the General Assembly to start the constitutional amendment process under De. Const. Art. XVI. The amendment process requires passage of the amendment by two-thirds vote of all members of each House in two successive sessions of the General Assembly.

The Delaware Supreme Court’s decision also reinforces the role of both the legislature and the courts in the consideration of voting rights legislation. Here, the General Assembly passed the VBM and same day registration bills which led to the Delaware Supreme Court declaring the legislation unconstitutional under the Delaware Constitution. The fidelity to separation of powers principles is at the heart of a North Carolina case (*Moore v. Harper*) before the U.S. Supreme Court this term. In *Moore*, the petitioners are arguing that the legislature alone under the “independent state legislative theory” has the ability to determine certain voting rights matters (in *Moore* the case involves redistricting). The Supreme Court’s decision in *Moore* will set the stage on how voting rights cases are decided in the future.

## CANDIDATES FORUM SCHEDULE 2022

### Candidate forums are planned for the following offices:

- Kent County Levy Court: 6 Candidates – Monday, October 24 (virtual)  
Kent County Row Offices: 5 Candidates – Monday, October 24 (virtual)
- State Senate (Kent County): 4 Candidates - (TBD) (virtual)  
State Representative (Kent County): 11 Candidates – Tuesday, October 25
- State Senate (NCC): 2 Candidates: Dist. 4 Tuesday, October 25 (in person)
- Federal: 4 Candidates – Thursday, October 27 (virtual)  
Statewide: 6 Candidates – Thursday, October 27 (virtual)
- State Senate (Sussex County): 4 Candidates, Friday, October 28 (in person)  
State Representative (Sussex County): 2 Candidates Tuesday, November 1 (in person)

LWVNCC - The video for the October 11, 2022 forum for the candidates for Delaware Representative District 25 (Lynn Mey and Cyndie Romer) can be found on this website page: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/new-castle-county/article/video-postings-october-2022-lwvncc-forums>

## TWO ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES

### 1. Consider being a poll worker



This is a great opportunity to learn more about the voting process, helping your fellow citizens to exercise their right to vote--and get paid for your service! For more info visit: <https://elections.delaware.gov/information/electionofficers.shtml>

### 2. Consider being an Election Protection Volunteer

#### Please help Protect the Vote with Common Cause DE!

This year for the first time ever, Common Cause DE is engaging in election protection efforts across the state. When they piloted the program on Primary Day, their team of volunteers found nearly 20 cases of voters needing assistance at the polls, as well as polling places in violation of election procedure, and they were able to successfully resolve them. This General Election Day, Common Cause DE will expand the program, and they are recruiting volunteers to staff this more robust effort. If greeting and assisting voters interests you, sign up at <https://protectthevote.net/>



### [Election Protection | Stop Voter Suppression & Protect the Vote!](https://protectthevote.net/)

**PROTECT THE VOTE** Stopping Voter Suppression. If you agree that every eligible voter deserves to have their voice count, you can take action from home or in person by serving as a nonpartisan Election Protection volunteer.

[protectthevote.net](https://protectthevote.net)

The LWVNCC hot topic scheduled for 11/28 at 11:30 will focus on voting. Jill Itzkowitz, LWVDE and vote411 chair, will discuss the results of the 11/8 general election in Delaware; Representative Mike Smith will review his semi open primary bill; and Kristen Brownlee, League member and President of Rank Choice Voting Delaware, will discuss bringing Rank Choice Voting to Delaware. Come hear about the future of voting in Delaware.

Here is the link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkcuqgpjgiH9zkk71re9LNGXpgqzuRVcCj>

## ***President's Message - Gwendolyn Miller***



Thank you to everyone who made the 2022 National Convention a time of community, action, and inspiration. At the election, new Board members were seated. Meet three key LWVUS Board and Staff members who have assisted and supported our State and Local leagues on important matters: Dianna Wynn, Morgan Murray, and Caren Short.

### **Dianna Wynn, LWVUS Liaison**

Earlier this week, I met with **Dianna Wynn** (she/her), the LWVUS Board member assigned to LWV Delaware, to serve as our liaison between LWVUS and LWVDE. Dianna's particular area of expertise is group dynamics. She has been tasked to help facilitate our State, and Local Leagues through challenges or problems should the need arise.

Dianna commits to the following:

- Sharing all relevant information, she learns from LWVUS Board calls.
- Sharing our concerns with the Board or the staff and following up with the relevant committee.
- Speaking at our Council, state convention, or State Board meetings; and
- Visiting Delaware State and Local leagues upon request.

**Morgan Murray, Program Coordinator (she/her) is the Program Coordinator at LWVUS. She is responsible for administering grant programs and supporting State and Local Leagues across the county on the national redistricting campaign and other election-related initiatives.**

She wants us to know that she'll be our point person on the national staff for any issues/concerns you have leading up to and including Election Day.

Morgan has requested that we contact her as a first step if we have any major concerns or news to share about how the election is going (good or bad) or if we need assistance responding to any issues urgently affecting voters.

The major concerns and issues to raise include the following:

- Last-minute changes (polling location changes or not opening on time, issues with mail-in ballots); messages we can help elevate nationally on social media or relay to the national press.
- Irregularities (turnout, problems, reports of broken machines, spreading of mis- and disinformation).
- Tension at the polls (presence of weapons, hostile individuals, protests).
- Any good news: photos or social posts that demonstrate a smooth-running election; and
- Any intent to file a lawsuit.

**Caren Short** (she/her/hers) is the Director of Legal and Research for the League of Women Voters of the United States. She manages a team of legal and technical experts working to oversee, innovate, and support the League's state and federal litigation dockets.

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Caren shared with me the news of an exciting new section of the League of Women Voters website: our brand-new Legal Center! Explore the exciting and vital work LWVUS is doing in courts nationwide. You can filter cases by status, state, and topic area.

LWVUS is not only here to help us navigate potential litigation ideas or questions, but also to research issues that concern Delaware. Now more than ever, litigation is a major part of the League's work to empower voters and defend democracy and civil rights.

Here are links to help you navigating these times:

- [Remaining Nonpartisan in Hyper-partisan Times](#)
- [Developing and Implementing a Nonpartisan Policy](#)
- [National Board Nonpartisan Policy](#)
- [Webinar: Operating as a Nonpartisan Organization](#)

Thank you!

*Gwendolyn Miller*

Gwendolyn R. Miller, President

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **RECEPTION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Monday, December 5, 2022**

**5:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Ed Oliver Golf Club, 800 N. Dupont Road, Wilmington**

Every other year (except for 2020) over the course of the past decade, three "good government" groups – Delaware Coalition for Open Government, Delaware Press Association, and the Leagues of Women Voters of Delaware and New Castle County – have joined together as the prime sponsors of the Elected Officials Reception, held on the first Monday in December after the biennial November elections. The event is open to the public.

All elected officials – state, county, municipal – are invited to attend the reception to meet the public and to give the members of the public an opportunity to meet their elected representatives and discuss ideas on numerous "quality of life" issues that are facing us all.

There will be food (cheese & crackers, fruit, and vegetable platters with dip, as well as a variety of other tasty hors d'oeuvres), beverages, and a cash bar. We also have a nominal entry fee of \$5 for all who attend, including those from co-sponsoring organizations – except the elected officials and the individuals who are co-sponsors. Look out for details to attend closer to the event.

## New Data Based on Redistricting Data Reveals Where People in Delaware Prisons Resided before Incarceration.

The Prison Policy Initiative, along with Delaware advocates Kyra Hoffner and Jack Young of the League of Women Voters People Powered Redistricting Project, released a new report, [Where people in prison come from: The geography of mass incarceration in Delaware](#), that provides an in-depth look at where people incarcerated in Delaware state prisons come from. The report also provides six detailed data tables that serve as a foundation for advocates, organizers, policymakers, data journalists, academics, and others to analyze how incarceration relates to other factors of community well-being.

The data and report are made possible by the [state's landmark 2010 law](#) that requires that people in state prisons be counted as residents of their hometown rather than in cells when state and local governments redistrict every ten years.

The report shows:

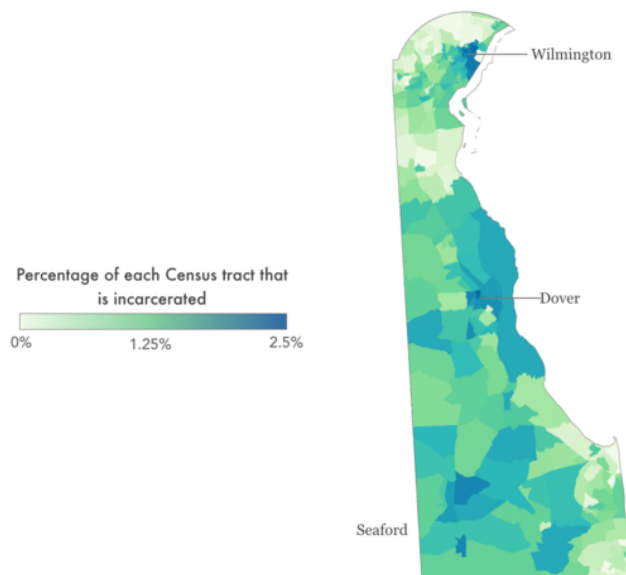
- All three counties — and every state legislative district — are missing a portion of their population to incarceration in state prison.
- Wilmington has the distinction of having both the highest number of city residents incarcerated as well as the highest incarceration rate of any city in the state.
- Mass incarceration is not just a problem impacting large cities. Many smaller towns are also hit hard. Laurel, for example, has an incarceration rate of 1,227 per 100,000 residents, while Blades has a rate of 924 per 100,000 residents.

Data tables included in the report provide residence information for people in Delaware state prisons at the time of the 2020 Census, offering the clearest look ever at which communities are most impacted by mass incarceration. They break down the number of people locked up by county, city, zip code, legislative district, and census tract.

The data show the cities with the highest incarceration rates are Wilmington (1,299 per 100,000 residents), Seaford (748 per 100,000 residents) and Dover (680 per 100,000 residents). For comparison, Newark has the lowest incarceration rate of any city, at 131 per 100,000 residents, nearly ten times lower than Wilmington and nearly three times lower than the state rate of 380 per 100,000 residents.

### Incarceration in Delaware is not just confined to the most populous cities: people living all over the state are locked up at high rates

Wilmington, Dover, and Seaford are home to the most people in prison, but across the state, people living in small towns and communities outside of city boundaries are affected by the state's reliance on mass incarceration.



PRISON  
POLICY INITIATIVE

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The report cites studies that show that incarceration rates correlate with a variety of negative outcomes, including higher rates of asthma, depression, lower standardized test scores, reduced life expectancy and more. The data included in this report gives researchers the tools they need to better understand how these correlations play out in Delaware.

Delaware is one of more than a dozen states and [200 local governments](#) that have addressed the practice of “[prison gerrymandering](#),” which gives disproportional political clout to state and local districts that contain prisons at the expense of all of the other areas of the state. In total, roughly half the country now lives in a place that has taken action to address prison gerrymandering.

### **LWV of Delaware Board votes to sign onto amicus brief on case (*Moore v. Harper*)**

LWVUS is finalizing an amicus brief on a case (*Moore v. Harper*), and they requested that all State Leagues “sign on” in support of that brief.

This case addresses whether voting issues involving election to federal offices come solely within the auspices of a state legislature or if a state’s judicial system has standing to review laws passed by its state legislature. The petitioners are arguing that the legislature alone, under the “independent state legislative theory,” has the authority to determine such voting rights matters (in *Moore* the case involves redistricting).

#### **The LWVUS position will be against the “Independent State Legislature Theory.”**

The decision in this case is expected to be of great relevance to the work of the League as related to voting and elections, which are essentially our signature issues.

#### **Links to Hot Topic Forums:**

- The video for the Advocacy in the 151st General Assembly hot topic presentation can be accessed here: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/new-castle-county/event/lwvncc-hot-topic-highs-lows-151st-general-assembly>
- Jill Itzkowitz did a "Voting in 2022" presentation for UD students on Monday, Oct 3. Kim Wells played some of our TikTok videos to break up the presentation, and Patti Christopher monitored the chat. Here is a post with a nice graphic about it: <https://www.facebook.com/UDAAProgram/posts/pfbid02ckbUtiorsEuY5ghwXJ3fxgs5iUFVNNdLSpFCVuUTiT885aTB5u7nj1hX1yAqvQRgl>
- "Did you know that LWVDE is on TikTok now? Here's a link to our TikTok video collection, designed to reach young voters: <https://www.tiktok.com/@lwvde>"

#### **Did you miss League Days forums?**

- ✓ Forum on Criminal Justice Panel discussion: Article: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/event/league-day-cost-justice-delawares-fines-fees-system>
- ✓ An article that lists all videos from League Days: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/article/lwvde-advocacy-corps-presents-league-days-2022>
- ✓ **The Wilmington Learning Collaborative: Prospects, Participants, Potential**  
A panel of five Delaware education leaders discussed Governor Carney’s recent initiative for Delaware school districts, successful model programs in other states, the potential gains for teaching and learning, the value of innovative structures, and roles for parents and the public. [Click here to view a recording of the presentation!](#)
- ✓ Link to the State League website: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware>



## President Biden Announces Key Appointments



Annie Norman, member of the LWV of Kent County, was nominated to the National Museum and Library Services Board. Congratulations!

“All – this appointment by our own President Biden, to the National Museum and Library Services Board, is an honor for me and a win for Delaware Libraries! Thank you all, for your winning collaboration!”

Annie Norman, Ed.D. State Librarian / Director, Delaware Division of Libraries

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/08/12/president-biden-announces-key-appointments-to-boards-and-commissions-4/>

## LWV Membership and Leadership Development (MLD)



Our state league, as well as local leagues, recently discussed the importance of growing our membership and RETAINING those who join. With this in mind, after much discussion at state and local meetings, we are ready to put our words into action. Following the guidance of the [MLD Initiative](#) developed by LWVUS, Gwendolyn Miller, Jenn Wells, and Mary Ann Coe met to discuss and begin drawing up some plans to make our membership grow and thrive. Jenn Wells is delving into the various social media outlets that can be used to aid in reaching new members, especially younger, energetic women, and men. Mary Ann Coe, who has had experience in developing mentorship programs for adults, is developing training sessions for both the mentor and the mentee.

Mentoring is a reciprocal learning relationship in which a mentor and mentee agree to a partnership, where they work collaboratively toward the achievement of mutually defined goals that will develop a mentee’s skills, abilities, knowledge, and/or thinking.

*“Well designed and managed mentoring programs can have a dramatic impact on workplace culture, people engagement and retention. A strategic mentoring program transcends hierarchy, creating relationships and interactions to build individual and hence organizational value.” Richardson & Richardson (2022)*

If you are interested in helping with either of these activities, please drop an email or text: (Jenn – (302) 304-1339, [jenn@brandswan.design](mailto:jenn@brandswan.design); Mary Ann – 940-733-0588, [maryanncoe@gmail.com](mailto:maryanncoe@gmail.com))

**An updated listing of elected officials *THEY REPRESENT YOU* that can be found at:**

<https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/leagues/new-castle-county/lwvncctheyrepresentyou2020-22.pdf>

find us on 

follow us 

Twitter provides a quick digest of the nation's leading headlines, while Facebook gives us an open forum where we discuss the important issues of the day. All posts and points of view are welcome as long as our nonpartisan and inclusive policies are being respected. To join Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Once you join, search for the League of Women Voters of Delaware and send us a "friend request." To join Twitter, go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and follow the instructions. Once you join, search for @lwvde and "follow" us!

## CALENDAR

### LWVDE COMMITTEE SCHEDULES AND STATE BOARD MEETINGS

#### *Advocacy Corps and its Subcommittees:*

- **LWVDE Advocacy Corps Meeting** – 2nd Weds at 9:30 am. Chair Linda Barnett ([advocacylwvde@gmail.com](mailto:advocacylwvde@gmail.com))
  - **Climate Change and Energy Portfolio Committee** – First Fridays at 3pm. Chair Peggy Schultz ([schultz\\_peggy@yahoo.com](mailto:schultz_peggy@yahoo.com))
  - **Criminal Justice Portfolio Team** – Fourth Wednesdays at 10 am. Chair Lori Yadin ([4hoping@gmail.com](mailto:4hoping@gmail.com))
  - **Education Portfolio Team** – Time to be determined. Co-chairs Luann D’Agostino ([ladagostino1@gmail.com](mailto:ladagostino1@gmail.com)) Susan V. Mitchell ([Svm.lwv.ncc@gmail.com](mailto:Svm.lwv.ncc@gmail.com))
  - **Elections & Voting Portfolio Committee** – First Tuesdays at 11 am. Chair Jill Itzkowitz ([jillitzkowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jillitzkowitz@gmail.com))
  - **Government, Finance, Taxation Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Jack Young ([young@sandlerreiff.com](mailto:young@sandlerreiff.com))
  - **Health Care Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Joann Hasse ([advocacylwvde@gmail.com](mailto:advocacylwvde@gmail.com))
  - **Land Use/Transportation Portfolio Committee** – First Wednesdays at 9am. Chair Anna Quisel ([annaquisel@gmail.com](mailto:annaquisel@gmail.com))
  - **Money in Politics Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Chris Asay ([Chrisasay@aol.com](mailto:Chrisasay@aol.com))
  - **Natural Resources Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Charlie Garlow ([charliegarlow350@gmail.com](mailto:charliegarlow350@gmail.com))
  - **Reproductive Choice Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Linda Barnett ([advocacylwvde@gmail.com](mailto:advocacylwvde@gmail.com))
  - **Social Policy Portfolio Team** – meeting as needed. Chair Linda Barnett ([advocacylwvde@gmail.com](mailto:advocacylwvde@gmail.com))
- **LWVDE Board meeting schedule for 2022** Contact Gwendolyn Miller, president [grybm@outlook.com](mailto:grybm@outlook.com) or call the LWVDE office at 302-571-8948. It meets the fourth Wednesday unless otherwise indicated. Time 5 – 7 pm with check-in starting at 4:45 p.m. Next meeting November 30, 2022.
- More info here: [my.lwv.org/delaware/calendar](https://my.lwv.org/delaware/calendar)



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