



**THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS in the
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND**

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KATHLEEN M. PIETANZA
Commissioner

MICHELLE REILLY
Deputy Commissioner

PATRICIA A. GIBLIN
Commissioner

MARINO FONTANA
Deputy Commissioner

Dear County, Town, and Village Chairs:

In recent elections, several races have been close and candidates have requested that the voting systems be impounded.

Impoundment, or protective custody of voting systems, is an expensive and often unnecessary procedure. At the close of the polls, all voted ballots are sealed in the various voting systems and secured. Voting systems cannot be tampered with, as the machines are locked and sealed at the close of the polls. All memory sticks containing vote counts and digitized pictures of each ballot are returned to the Board of Elections and run through and read by our software on election night.

If you or a candidate believes impoundment is necessary, the following procedures must be followed:

1. A Supreme Court Justice must issue a Court Order. Please contact the Board of Elections to determine the Justice on duty or if you have questions.
2. The Court Order must be delivered to both Commissioners, who will then make the necessary arrangements with the Sheriff.

No one other than the Commissioners and the Sheriff is authorized to order movement of voting systems, election supplies, and/or election ballots. The Sheriff's Patrol and Police Departments will take instructions from the Board of Elections.

A Supreme Court Justice may, at his or her discretion and if so requested, place all paper pertaining to the election in protective custody. The Board of Elections will provide instructions to place these materials under legal protection. This limited, but effective, impoundment is an alternative to widespread impoundment of all voting systems and machines and eliminates additional taxpayer expense.

We ask all Chairs to communicate these procedures to their candidates. This will avoid confusion on election night.

Thank you.

Kathleen M. Pietanza
Commissioner of Elections

Patricia A. Giblin
Commissioner of Elections