

Peter S. Kosinski
Co-Chair



Henry T. Berger
Co-Chair

Anthony J. Casale
Commissioner

40 NORTH PEARL STREET, SUITE 5
ALBANY, N.Y. 12207-2109

Essma Bagnuola
Commissioner

Raymond J. Riley, III
Co-Executive Director

Phone: 518/474-8100 Fax: 518/486-4068
<http://www.elections.ny.gov>

Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky
Co-Executive Director

October 23, 2024

Commissioner Dustin Czarny
Commissioner Michele Sardo
Onondaga County Board of Elections
1000 Erie Blvd W
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Alternative Staffing Plan

Dear Commissioners Czarny and Sardo:

We acknowledge the filing of the revised alternative staffing plan on October 22, 2024 pursuant to 3-500, reallocating printers and poll pads. The New York State Board of Elections is not approving your plan, but we acknowledge it has been filed and therefore may be implemented on your own authority.

You have certified that your plan will ensure voter wait times will not exceed thirty minutes. We are relying on your repeated verbal assertions and your written certification of September 3, 2024 that your plan will in fact meet the statutory standard.

Still, as we have expressed in detail, we are concerned that there are sites at which the demand on your printers and poll pads could exceed their reasonable, real-world capacities, particularly during peak hours. We appreciate your contingency planning in the event a printer fails, or poll books become inoperable, but still have concerns about the sufficiency of the deployed equipment's capacity in the context of this election.

That said, your allocation of poll pads and printers does not violate any specific regulatory or statutory provision. Given that these matters are left to the discretion of local elections officials with the caveat that voter wait times do not exceed thirty minutes (see Election Law 3-500), and given, again, that you have indicated repeatedly that your experience and analysis dictates the plan is sufficient in the context of your county, we are not in a position to countermand your determinations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen Z", written over a horizontal line.

Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky
Co-Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Raymond J. Riley III", written over a horizontal line.

Raymond J. Riley III
Co-Executive Director