

**NANCY HESEMAN
WASHINGTON COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
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Notice to Registered Voters of Washington County

Over the past few days, many Washington County voters have received a letter from Secretary of State Jesse White's office alerting them that they have not applied for a Vote by Mail ballot, and they should contact my office to complete their application. These letters have been sent to voters throughout Illinois from the Secretary of State's Office.

The letters were part of the mandate of SB 1863, the election bill passed by the state legislature in May as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It requires election authorities, such as the Washington County Clerk, to send a vote by mail application to the voters of Washington County. They were mailed the first of August as a do not forward mailing.

The law stipulates that the Secretary of State shall send, by September 15, 2020 a notice to any voter in Illinois who received an application for a vote by mail ballot but, according to the State Board of Elections records, has not yet applied for a vote by mail ballot.

However, the notices do not accurately reflect the current status of Vote by Mail applications my office has received from Washington County voters. Many voters who have applied for mail ballots, as well as voters who have no interest in voting by mail, have received these letters.

I assure those who have applied for mail ballots that my office has been processing your applications, and Vote by Mail ballots will be sent to Washington County voters who have requested them beginning September 24 and should start arriving in homes the following week.

Nancy Heseman
Washington County Clerk