

January 22, 1981

TO: JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
County Office Building  
175 Arsenal St.  
Watertown, NY 13601

SUBJECT: Jefferson County Board of Elections - Annual Report - 1980

This annual report of the Board of Elections of Jefferson County for the year ending December 31, 1980, is hereby submitted.

The first day of central registration for year 1980 commenced December 7, 1979, and continued through August 29, 1980. 1,599 persons registered centrally during this period.

This office processed and approved 4,710 applications for registration and enrollment by mail forms during 1980. 1,627 applications for registration and enrollment by mail forms were dispersed to schools in Jefferson County for registration of students who would be 18 years of age on election day or the day after. Additional forms were dispersed to Town and Village Clerks, public libraries, political parties and civic organizations.

The process of preparing the primary enrollment books starts in mid-November of each year and requires at least 6 weeks work by everyone in this department. A careful review of each voters registration record is made by checking registration serial number, name, address and party enrollment with a master list and recording any changes. Primary enrollment books were printed in January 1980 by Jefferson County Printing Department, containing 34,687 registered voters.

Enrollment tables are prepared after the publication of the primary enrollment books, showing prior year registration by election district, total votes cast by election district in the last election, current enrollment by party and district. Printing is done by Jefferson County Printing Dept.

Primary enrollment lists were supplied for Village and School District elections, political parties and their committees.

A statewide Democratic Presidential Election Primary was held on March 25, 1980, with 2,857 registered democratic voters casting their vote in Jefferson County. 25.51% voter participation in this primary. United Printing Co. Inc., printed all ballots and supplies at a cost of \$540.00 to the county.

219 absentee ballot applications were received by this office for this March 25, 1980 Primary, with the same number being mailed. 169 ballots were returned and counted.

The re-canvass of voting machines started March 26, 1980 and was completed March 31, 1980.

A Democratic Primary Election was held on September 9, 1980, for the office of United States Senator and Representative in Congress. 11,516 registered democratic voters were eligible to vote in this primary, of this total 3,151 cast their ballots. This represents 27.36% voter participation.

A Republican Primary Election was also held on September 9, 1980, for the office of United States Senator and Representative in Congress. 19,855 registered republican voters were eligible to vote in this primary, of this total 8,507 cast their ballots. This represents 42.84% voter participation.

1980 was the first year voting machines were used in primary elections in Jefferson County.

Uncontested elections at the September Primary were for Sheriff of Jefferson County, Town Justice - Town of Adams, Town Councilman - Town of Rutland, Assessor - 4 years - Town of Theresa, Assessor - 4 years. Town of Worth.

Also elected at this primary were State Democratic Committee positions and County Democratic Committee members.

586 Republican and Democratic Primary Absentee ballot applications were received by this office, with the same number of ballots being mailed. 397 ballots were returned and counted.

Ballots and supplies for the Primary Election were printed by United Printing Co. Inc., at a cost of \$1758.00, of which \$787.00 was a county charge.

There were no public offices up for Non-Partisan election within the City of Watertown for year 1980.

Local Registration was held for two days for the purpose of registering all voters possible in a Presidential year. Registration days were held on Wednesday, October 8, 1980 and Saturday, October 11, 1980. 268 persons registered to vote in the City of Watertown and 1166 in the Towns, for a total of 1,434 registrants in both days of registration.

Registration lists for October 1980 were compiled and revealed the following total registration and enrollment:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
City of Watertown	5,328	6,714	12,042
Towns of Jeff.Co.	13,020	14,230	27,250
Total County	18,348	20,944	39,292

<u>Party</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Total</u>
Democratic	3,840	7,676	11,516
Republican	5,725	14,019	19,744
Conservative	72	242	314
Right To Life	12	15	27
Liberal	96	248	344
Neutral	1,287	2,849	4,136
Blanks	1,010	2,201	3,211
Totals	12,042	27,250	39,292

The General Election was held on November 4, 1980. Registered voters in Jefferson County voted for:

For Electors of President and Vice-President  
 United States Senator  
 Representative in Congress - 30th C. D.  
 State Senator - 45th S.D.  
 Member of Assembly - 114th A.D.  
 Sheriff of Jefferson County

Town Officers (to fill vacancy) in the Towns of:  
 Adams, Antwerp, Rutland, Theresa and Watertown. The Town of Henderson also voted on a Town Proposition. The Town of Watertown voted on a Town Question.

39,292 persons were registered to vote in the November 1980 election, with 33,399 voting for President or 85%. 33,388 voted for United States Senator and Representative in Congress or 84%. 33,372 voted for State Senator, Assembly and Sheriff or 84%.

The following is a compilation of Absentee Ballots mailed from this office for the General Election:

	<u>Reg. Absentee &amp; Perm. Confinment</u>	<u>Special Federal</u>	<u>Special Presidential</u>	<u>Military</u>	<u>Total</u>
City	657	11	5	144	817
Towns	1222	13	7	347	1589
Total	1879	24	12	491	2406

General Election ballots and machine supplies were printed by United Printing Co. at a cost of \$3842.50, of which \$1519.00 was a county charge.

The re-canvass of voting machines was started on November 5, 1980 and completed on November 7, 1980.

The instruction school for Election Inspectors in Jefferson County was held August 7, 8, 12 and 13, 1980, at Jefferson Community College, during which 321 appointed inspectors and 19 substitute inspectors were trained. Election Inspectors examinations were given to 41 inspectors.

During the review of voter registration books for year 1980, it was determined 562 voters who did not vote in 1978 or 1979 after being reinstated in January 1980, did not vote again on November 4, 1980. In compliance with the Election Law, this number has been cancelled.

The review of the voter registration books for year 1980 has been completed and reveals that 1,988 voters in Jefferson County did not vote in a general, special or primary election in the last 2 years. A dual postal card has been sent to each voter who failed to vote in 1979 or 1980. In compliance with the Election Law, a voter is given three weeks from date of postmark to return this affidavit request form, upon the voters failure to return the post card in the required time limit, their voter registration will be cancelled and a letter sent advising each voter of this action.

The following are the total expenses incurred by the Board of Elections for year 1980:

A 1450.1	Personal Services	\$ 47,171.19
A 1450.2	Equipment	673.00
A 1450.4	Contractual Expenses	<u>19,532.83</u>
	Total	\$ 67,377.02

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Lewis G. Spicer  
William J. Walck

Commissioners of Elections