



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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300,000 PEOPLE NOW REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – For the first time ever, more than 300,000 people are registered to vote in St. Charles County.

The historic milestone came earlier this week, just days before the close of voter registration for the November General Election. St. Charles County is the fastest-growing county in Missouri, with the U.S. Census Bureau estimating about 417,000 total residents.

Election Director Kurt Bahr will meet with reporters at 9 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 10, at the St. Charles County Election Authority, 397 Turner Blvd., St. Peters. He plans to talk about what voters can expect between now and election day, and about procedures in place to ensure election integrity. Among the important dates ahead:

- October 15 – Look for sample ballots in the mail
- October 22 – No-excuse, in-person absentee voting starts
- October 24 – Voting machines accuracy test (Public participation encouraged!)

There are now more registered voters in the county than the total number of people living here in 2001. Bahr says the voter registration rate is in the top 1% nationwide.

“It’s impressive how most people who *can* register, *have* registered in our county,” says Bahr. “We diligently work with voters throughout the year to update their voter records so Election Day runs smoothly.”

Bahr estimates 75% of registered voters here will cast a ballot by the end of Election Day. Absentee voting is already underway, and starting on Oct. 22 voters can come in-person to vote early at the Election Authority headquarters in St. Peters or Element Church in Wentzville. Bahr expects to see 500-1,000 people per day leading up to the Nov. 5 election.

A sample ballot will be mailed to every registered voter ahead of November’s election, instead of the one per household that has typically been mailed. The sample ballot includes information about where to vote, and can help with research and notes about issues and candidates.

“We’re going to have a long ballot, and we’re probably going to have some long lines on Election Day,” Bahr adds. “If you have the opportunity, come out to the Election Authority office, or our satellite location at Element Church, and go ahead and vote before Election Day.”

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About St. Charles County:

St. Charles County, Missouri, founded in 1812, is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri. With a population of over 415,000, it is the state's third largest county. It is home to 21 scenic county parks of which three are in reserve, encompassing 4,509 acres.

With one of the largest economies in the state, St. Charles County is home to multinational companies including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government has more than 1,170 employees in more than 30 departments and offices who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit sccmo.org.