

# WEST VIRGINIA -ELECTION CONNECTION-

*Your source for Election News from Secretary of State Natalie E. Tennant*

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Issue 14 – January 10, 2012

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## **17 Weeks Until the May Primary!**

On Tuesday, January 10 there will be exactly 17 weeks until the May Primary!

## **Candidate Filing Begins**

Candidates seeking statewide office have begun filing their paperwork with the Secretary of State's Office. The filing period runs until midnight on Saturday, January 28. You can watch the candidate filing live on the Secretary of State's website at [www.wvsos.com](http://www.wvsos.com), and you can also see an updated list of who has filed by clicking on the link at the top of the page. On the first day of candidate filing, people in ten states – from West Virginia to California – watched our webcast! The webcast will be on from 8:30 in the morning until 5:00 in the evening every day of the candidate filing period, with live hosted updates coming from the staff of the Elections Division or Secretary Tennant.

## **More Important Dates To Remember**

There are a couple deadlines coming up that you need to remember!

- **January 10, 2012** is the deadline for County Clerks to notify party chairmen of the pending appointment for Ballot Commissioners.
- **January 15-January 30** is the time period county clerks, as the chairman of the board of ballot commissioners, may appoint two ballot commissioners (one each from two recognized political parties) for a two-year term.
- **February 1, 2012:** "Inactive" voters designated.

## **State of the State Address and Legislative Session**

On Wednesday, January 11 the 2012 Legislative Session gets underway. At 7:00 PM Governor Earl Ray Tomblin will deliver his second State of the State Address. You can watch the speech live on PBS stations around the state or live on your computer at [www.governor.wv.gov](http://www.governor.wv.gov).

### **Campaign Finance Training**

The Secretary of State's Office will be conducting Campaign Finance Training throughout the state in February. The training sessions will be in Martinsburg on February 15, Fairmont on February 22, Wheeling on February 23, Logan on February 27, and Charleston on February 28. The training is primarily intended for candidates and treasurers, but other interested individuals are welcome to attend. The training sessions are free, but space is limited and registration is required. The training will include campaign finance law, filing deadlines, how to use the online campaign finance reporting system, and reviews of the forms and documentation. Attached to this email is a flyer for the event. If you have questions, please contact Missi Kinder at [mkinder@wvsos.com](mailto:mkinder@wvsos.com) or Greg Watson at [gwatson@wvsos.com](mailto:gwatson@wvsos.com). You may also call the Secretary of State's Office at (304) 558-6000.

### **Have an idea?**

Is there something that you want to see addressed in the Election Connection? The goal of this newsletter is to keep everyone up to date about challenges facing election officials in West Virginia and to inform everyone about best practices that are being put into place. If you have an idea for a topic, have a question, or if you think there is a subject that election officials around the state would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact the Elections Division by email at [elections@wvsos.com](mailto:elections@wvsos.com) or (304) 558-6000 or Jake Glance directly at [jglance@wvsos.com](mailto:jglance@wvsos.com). Your input is appreciated.