

Ballot Position Drawing Procedures March 18, 2026

The draw for ballot positions for local offices in the 2026 General Primary will commence with the following procedures:

- Each candidate who filed nomination petitions for a local office will have the opportunity to draw a lot to determine their ballot position on the 2026 Primary ballot.
- For those candidates who wish to use a proxy to draw for their ballot position, the candidate must authorize the selected individual by filing a proxy form or a letter signed by the candidate with the County Board of Elections.
- Candidates who draw number one will be placed first on the ballot, those that draw number two will be placed second on the ballot, and so on.
- We will begin with the office of Democratic Member of the Ward Executive Committee and then proceed to the Republican Member of the Ward Executive Committee.
- We will prioritize races where the candidate, or a candidate's proxy, is ready to draw. We will draw in ward and division order. In races where a candidate or proxy is present, the candidate who has the earliest time stamp on their nomination petition will draw first, regardless of whether the candidate or candidate's proxy with the earlier timestamp is present. For offices drawn this way, if the candidate or candidate's proxy is not present, a County Board of Elections employee will draw on their behalf.
- For races where there are no candidate or candidate's proxy ready to draw, we will use a random function in Excel to assign ballot positions. The Excel function will only be used for races where no individual has already drawn. **The Excel spreadsheet will randomly assign a number between zero and one to each candidate.** The candidate with the largest number will be assigned the first position on the ballot, the candidate with the second-largest number will be assigned the second position, and so on.
- Once ballot positions have been drawn either in-person or through Excel, we will not redraw for any reason.