



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media contact: Mark Schaaf (262) 977-1363

RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE **April 7, 2020**

Overview

Following a Wisconsin Supreme Court decision late Monday afternoon, polls in Racine County and across the state opened at 7 a.m. this morning and will close at 8 p.m. At the time of this update, the Racine County Clerk's Office reports the election has gone as efficiently as can be expected given the unprecedented circumstances.

The Racine County Clerk's Office, municipal clerk's offices, and the Racine County Emergency Operations Center have worked for several weeks to ensure the election is conducted as safely and smoothly as possible. Specific procedures varied by municipality -- for example, curbside voting or limiting polling places -- but in all cases municipalities enacted measures to maintain social distancing at the polls and protect poll workers.

The Racine County Emergency Operations Center delivered personal protective equipment to municipal clerks' offices over the weekend that were used by poll workers and election officials. In addition, about 50 plainclothes Wisconsin National Guard members were in Racine County today and deployed to polling places as needed.

Per a separate U.S. Supreme Court decision issued late Monday, all mailed absentee ballots must be postmarked by today, April 7 -- and received no later than 4 p.m. Monday, April 13 -- or returned to its respective municipal clerk's office before 8 p.m. tonight to be counted.

No election results will be reported until after 4 p.m. Monday, April 13, due to an extended deadline for clerks' offices to receive ballots.

"We can't say thank you enough to our clerks, poll workers, volunteers, and Wisconsin National Guard members who stepped up today to make our election as safe as possible," County Executive Jonathan Delagrave said. "Racine County Clerk Wendy Christensen, our County Clerk's Office, and municipal clerks across Racine County should be commended for overcoming incredible challenges to hold in-person voting today. Our collective efforts have focused on protecting public health and preventing the spread of COVID-19."

"We also want to thank voters for continuing to participate in the democratic process and for your patience at polling places."

Confirmed coronavirus cases

United States: 374,329

Wisconsin: 2,578

Central Racine County Health Department jurisdiction: 39 (1 death)

City of Racine Health Department jurisdiction: 40 (1 death)

Racine County total: 79 (2 deaths)

Resources

For local updates on the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus.

For national information on COVID-19, please go to the Centers for Disease Control's website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

You can also find current information on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website, which has guidance that is updated regularly for travel, self-quarantine, and school districts, among other important information: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>.

###