

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kane County, Geneva, IL - John A. Cunningham

KANE COUNTY CLERK INVITES COMMUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT ELECTIONS PROCESS

Over the past few weeks, Kane County Clerk John A. Cunningham has welcomed groups into the Geneva office for a behind-the-scenes look into the election process. “What you are seeing is the best equipment out there,” Cunningham told a group of visitors Thursday.

In addition to voting, the Kane County Clerk’s Office manages Vital Records and Tax Extension. “Our office is more complex than people realize,” Cunningham said. Visitors to the Clerk’s office learn how ballots are processed for all three voting methods – Early Voting, Vote by Mail and In-person Election Day voting – and see firsthand how vote-by-mail equipment works and the safeguards in place to ensure election security and integrity.

During the comprehensive tour, Election staff members explain the intricacies and safeguard measures in the “Birth of a Ballot,” including the public testing of ballots. A segment of the presentation focuses on the printing and folding of vote by mail ballots, as well as the inserting and mailing out of vote by mail ballots. Visitors receive an inside look on the return of vote by mail ballot handling – from the sorting and signature verification process to the inspection, scanning, and storage of vote by mail ballots in a restricted access vault.

The purpose of the voting tours is to educate the voting public so they feel more familiar and comfortable with the process while providing accurate information about the election process.

“We all like to receive praise but I also appreciate criticism. Unfortunately, there are times when misinformation gets out,” Cunningham said. In addition, bi-partisan teams of judges are involved in the processing. “Every stage of the voting process has a Republican and Democrat election judge for security purposes,” Cunningham said.

Cameras are strategically placed and have full view within the Clerk’s ballot processing room at all times, election officials said.

“During the process, we are under the camera,” Kane County Director of Elections Raymond Esquivel said. “I have trust in my staff. We are a team here,” Esquivel said.

Some of the visitors appreciated the Clerk’s new voting equipment at polling places and they were intrigued with the idea that they can sign up to receive information from tracking technology that notifies a voter that their ballot has been accepted. Voters can sign up with Ballottrax on the website at <https://votekane.ballottrax.net/voter/>. Subscribers can be contacted by email, phone call or text.

Visitors can also get an inside look at the Kane County Election Call Center, managed by Call Center manager Lynn McShane. The Call Center is available to assist voters when they call in with questions about their voter registration and mail-in ballots or to verify if they are reregistered to vote.

To schedule an election tour, contact the Kane County Clerk’s Office at (630) 232-5990 or email Elections@KaneCountyIL.gov. The next election is Tuesday November 3, 2026.

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Kane County Clerk John A. Cunningham (in red), explains the responsibilities of his office to residents of the River Glen of St. Charles prior to their "Elections Education" tour.