

Shelby County Election Commission

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SCEC TO OFFER DEPUTY REGISTRAR CLASSES

April 20, 2017 (Memphis, Tenn.) In March, the Shelby County Election Commission (SCEC) held a series of classes for interested individuals to become deputized as registrars. The classes filled up quickly and interest was so great that a second set of classes is scheduled next month.

Once again, a class will be offered on a weekday, at night and on Saturday. The first class will be held Tuesday, May 2 at 10 a.m., the second class will be held Saturday, May 6 at 10 a.m. and the third class will be held Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

“We were a little surprised, but pleased at the public’s response to the classes,” said Linda Phillips, administrator of elections for SCEC. “The overwhelming enthusiasm led us to schedule a second round of classes.”

After completion of the class, participants are sworn in for a one-year term as a deputy registrar for SCEC. This means people can hold voter registration events independently and offer “in-person” registration. People who do not register in person, such as those who mail in voter registration applications, or who register at events where no deputy registrar or SCEC staff member is present, are not eligible to receive an absentee ballot. Such people must vote in person before being eligible to receive an absentee ballot.

Because SCEC is neutral, deputy registrars must operate within strict guidelines. “A deputy registrar is may not refuse to register someone in one party or the other, nor may they try to influence a person to register in a specific political party,” Phillips said.

In addition to party-neutral behavior, deputy registrars must be active, registered voters.

To sign-up for the class, contact Sharon Logan at Sharon.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov, at least 24 hours prior to the class time. “People who are interested, should go ahead and register,” Phillips said. “The last set of classes filled up quickly.”

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