

# P&A TIDBITS

LEGAL NEWS & other  
Disability-Related info

AUGUST 2020



Mark Your Calendars  
AND  
VOTE

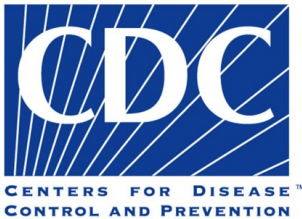


Election  
2020



CORONAVIRUS  
RELATED

The CDC has updated its website with timely guidance: "Considerations for Election Polling Locations and Voters — Interim guidance to prevent spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)," updated June 22, 2020. A summary of changes include:



- Expanded guidance on changes to operations, procedures, and facilities for polling locations
- Added reminders to maintain accessibility
- Added recommendations for voters

For more info or to read the guidance, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/election-polling-locations.html>.

## Voting for Primaries in Wyoming is August 18, 2020

Are you ready? A good source of information to get you started is available from the Wyoming Secretary of State's website:



For more information, go to: <https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/2020ElectionInformation.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1SWmKDKbJRWD8UQOG6PYpdbCLDUemlLjZM77x143sbPootfO-fhoivUA>

A list of the county clerks to contact yours is found at: <https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/Docs/WYCountyClerks.pdf>

Remember!

If you need help...



**HOTLINE**  
**(877) 249-6167**

7:00 am to 7:00 pm on Election Days

MAKE THE DISABILITY VOTE COUNT

## Accessibility News

### OCR Resolves Complaints after State of Connecticut and Private Hospital Safeguard the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to Have Reasonable Access to Support Persons in Hospital Settings During COVID-19

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reached an Early Case Resolution (ECR) with the State of Connecticut after the state issued an executive order regarding non-visitation policies for short-term hospitals, outpatient clinics, and outpatient surgical facilities. The order is designed to ensure that non-visitor policies are reasonably modified for patients with disabilities who may need a support person.

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/06/09/ocr-resolves-complaints-after-state-connecticut-private-hospital-safeguard-rights-persons.html>

### Employment and Training Administration Releases Workplace Resources for People with Intellectual Disabilities



The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) launched a collection of resources to help workforce professionals better understand individuals with intellectual disabilities and how to create employment opportunities.

Source: <https://disability.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/08/13/14/25/Workplace-Resources-for-Intellectual-Disability>

### U.S. Census Bureau Publishes Disability "Facts for Features"

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the ADA, the U.S. Census Bureau released this demographic snapshot of the U.S. population with disabilities. The release also includes links to Census Bureau blogs and graphics on disability topics.



#### Did You Know?

- 40.6 million or 12.6% represents the total civilian noninstitutionalized population with a disability in the United States in 2018.
- 7.6 million represents the total civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 18 to 64 employed with a disability in 2018.
- \$23,848 represents the median earnings in the past 12 months (in 2018 inflation adjusted dollars) of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and over with earnings and a disability in 2018.

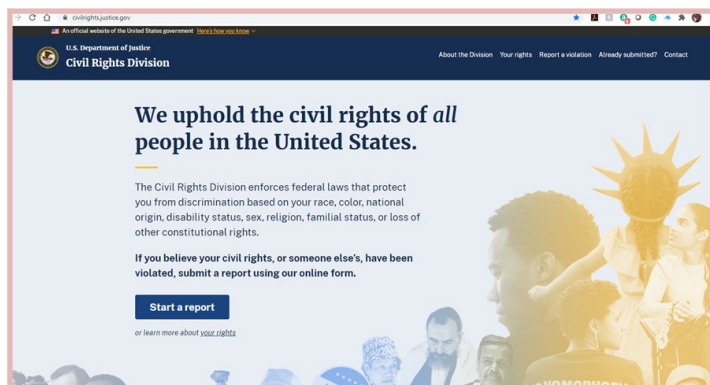
For more information, go to: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2020/disabilities-act.html>

### Department of Justice Announces Launch of Civil Rights Reporting Portal



The U.S. Department of Justice announced the launch of the **Civil Rights Reporting Portal**, a new online tool designed to make it easier for the public to report civil rights violations.

Source: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departement-justice-announces-launch-civil-rights-reporting-portal>



### The Department of Justice Warns of Inaccurate Flyers and Postings Regarding the Use of Face Masks and the ADA

The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division warns and has reiterated that cards and other documents bearing the Department of Justice seal and claiming that individuals are exempt from face mask requirements are fraudulent.

Inaccurate flyers or other postings have been circulating on the web and via social media channels regarding the use of face masks and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of these notices included use of the DOJ seal and ADA phone number.

As the Department has stated in a previous alert, the Department did not issue and does not endorse them in any way. The public should not rely on the information contained in these postings.

Source: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departement-justice-warns-inaccurate-flyers-and-postings-regarding-use-face-masks-and>

FOR MORE  
INFO

## CONTACT US

**Protection & Advocacy System, Inc.**

7344 Stockman Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

(307) 632-3496      Voice or Relay  
(800) 624-7648      (Clients Only)  
(307) 638-0815      FAX

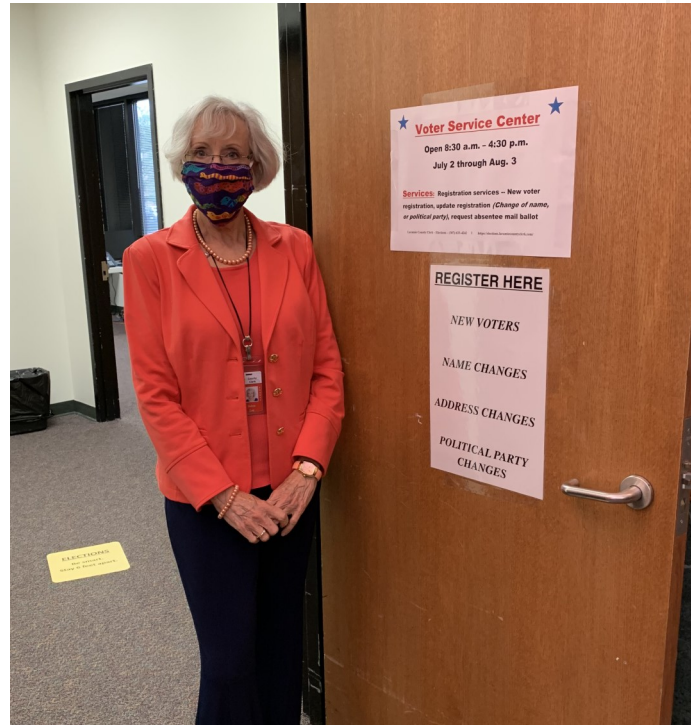


### New Voting Machines in Wyoming!

After the Legislature appropriated funds for county clerks to obtain new voting machines, and following a competitive bidding process, they finally arrived earlier this year. Most counties have the same machines, although some counties opted for different types. One county was Laramie County. Debra Lee, the Laramie County Clerk, selected machines that were similar in appearance to ones used in the past to make it easier on voters. In addition, all machines in Laramie County are accessible, including a keypad with Braille (depicted in picture below right of individual holding keypad). Laramie County also previously had machines set up to be electronic. However, due to security concerns, this has been discontinued. A machine also is devoted for persons with disabilities who use a wheelchair.

The pandemic has prompted changes, which in Laramie County as well as other counties, has seen a significant increase in requests for absentee mail-in ballots. (The picture below depicts the ballot drop off just outside the County Government Office, one of several voting locations.) Some things will not change. One important example, registration can take place on the day for elections. (In the picture to the right, Ms. Lee shows the location for registration, modified to achieve social distancing.)

Ms. Lee encourages voters to be aware of their options so they can choose voting method that's best for them. Voters can request an absentee mail ballot so they can vote at home. Early voting is another option, as crowds tend to be fewer in number. It is important to find out the early voting hours, as they may vary in each county. The last ten days before an election are usually the busiest. County Clerks offices are available to the public to answer questions and offer assistance. As the pandemic has brought home: We are all in this together!



# got questions?



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