

# OPPFI 2024 VREM Quick Facts & Best Practices For 2024 Elections

If not us, then who?
Our Pathway through 2024







#### **VREM Topics to Cover with Brothers in Your District**

- 2024 Election Calendar
- Photo ID Acceptance When Required
- Election Law Changes in All Districts
- Voter Registration Drives in All Districts







### **Key Dates and Deadlines**

Voter Registration
Early Voting
and
Election Dates







Please click on each topic below for additional information.

Register and Vote in Your State

Early Voting by State

Get The 411 On Voting In Your State

**Polling Place Locator** 







### **Voter ID**







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### What ID Can I Use?

Any of the following that is, unexpired or expired for one year or less:

#### Refer to your State's Accepted Use of ID To VOTE

- State Driver's License
- U.S. Passport/U.S. Passport Card
- State ID ("non-operator ID") from the State DMV
- State Voter Photo ID card, issued by a County Board of Elections
- College/university student ID approved by State Board of Elections

- Charter school employee ID approved by State Board of Elections
- State/local government employee ID approved by State Board of Elections
- Driver's license/non-driver ID from another state, D.C. or U.S. territory







### What ID Can I Use Cont'd?

Any of the following, regardless of whether the ID contains an expiration or issuance date:
Refer to your State's Accepted Use of ID

- ✓ Military or veteran ID card issued by the U.S. government
- √ Tribal enrollment card issued by a State or federally recognized tribe
- ✓ ID card issued by a U.S. government agency or by the State for a public assistance program

Note: Voters ages 65+ "may" be allowed use an expired ID if it was unexpired on their 65th birthday. See your State Guidelines





#### What If I Don't Have a Photo ID?

All voters will be allowed to vote with or without a photo ID:

**Request To Vote Provisional** 

Refer to your State's Guidelines to Vote with No Photo ID







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### Unable to Show a Photo ID?

#### Vote a Provisional Ballot and choose 1 of the following:

- 1. Return to County's Board of Election Office with ID by the day before county canvass
- 2. Complete an ID Exception Form
  - On the form, the voter will choose from the following permitted exceptions:
    - ☐ Voter has a "reasonable impediment" preventing them from showing ID
    - ☐ Voter has a religious objection to being photographed
    - ☐ Voter was a victim of a natural disaster within 100 days before Election Day

**See Your State Guidelines To Vote Provisional** 







### **Election Law Changes**

Please Pull and Share all new 2023/2024 State
Legislature Bills Related To VREM







### Get Involved

- Democracy Hero Early Voting, Election Day Participation
- Student Election Assistant Partner with Undergrad Chapters
- Multipartisan Assistance Team MAT Team (Senior Living Locations)
- Adopt A Precinct(s)
- Undergrad Representation on IHQ VREM Calls
- Undergrad Chapters Involved in Swing States GOTV & VREM Execution Plans

Some positions may require affiliation with a political party and recommendation by that party.







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#### Campaign Permitted and Not Permitted Activities

#### **Permitted Activities:**

#### Sponsor an appearance by a candidate or public official

- Don't indicate any support or opposition
- Give other candidates the opportunity to appear
- Be sure the appearance doesn't turn into a campaign stop or fundraiser for that person

#### Hold a debate among candidates

- Must invite all the candidates, regardless of party
- Have an independent panel prepare the questions, covering a broad range of topics.
- Provide every candidate with an equal opportunity to speak
- Moderator should state views expressed DO NOT represent the views of the fraternity.

#### Advocate a political issue without intervening in a campaign

 Can go so far as to try to sway the candidates to your way of thinking and encourage them to take a public stand

Permitted to wear symbols during voter registration and other nonpartisan activities

Permitted to attend press conferences or other activities with partners that are nonpartisan and aligned with fraternity social justice initiatives

Symbols can be worn at rallies and other social action activities that align with fraternity social justice mission

\*\*\*Members must always use good judgment in this space

#### **Not-Permitted Activities**

#### Supporting a candidate or party for election - Chapter

 Can't get behind or oppose a declared candidate or third-party movement, engage in efforts to draft someone to run for office, or do advance exploratory work for electing a candidate or party

#### Contributing to a political campaign or endorse a candidate - Chapter

 This includes indirect support, such as volunteering to make calls on behalf of a candidate as well as direct financial support

#### Providing any form of monetary or in-kind support - Chapter

Barred from donating funds directly or indirectly to a candidate or party, they
can't use another event to raise funds

#### Requesting support for OPPF, Chapter, or the charitable mission of either - Chapter

 Not from a candidate, political party or other political organization in exchange for endorsement.

Distributing any materials encouraging recipients to vote one way or another.

This includes any website or social media communications –

Chapter/Brother

Wearing paraphernalia to campaign events, fundraisers or other partisan activities. – Chapter/Brother

Posting pictures with themselves wearing fraternity symbols with candidate(s) – Chapter/Brother

Speaking on behalf of the fraternity (please refer inquires to IHQ)





# Get Involved Cont'd Voter Registration Drives







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### Focus On Designated Swing States and Cities

Arizona (Phoenix, Chandler) – 11 Electoral Votes

Georgia (Atlanta, Augusta, Albany, Savannah, Columbus, Macon) 16 Electoral Votes

Michigan (Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing) -15 Electoral Votes

Nevada (Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson) - 6 Electoral Votes

North Carolina (Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Greenville,

Wilmington, Winston-Salem, Fayetteville) - 16 Electoral Votes

Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pittsburgh) – 19 Electoral Votes

Wisconsin (Milwaukee, Racine) – 10 Electoral Votes

Nebraska (Omaha, Lincoln) - 5 Split Electoral Votes







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#### **Host Voter Registration Drives**

- Obtain Approved SEC Form via Your District Counselor prior to Voter Registration Drive(s)
- Less than 100 Voter Registration Applications:
   Contact your County Board of Elections
- More than 100 Voter Registration Applications: Complete "Voter Registration Drive Supplies Request Form" at your Local, State or U.S. Board of Election Offices
- Do Not compensate for registration application forms:
   Quotas are Illegal and a Misdemeanour
- Do Not Alter Forms:
   Assistance must be in voter's presence and at their request





### **Host Voter Registration Drives Cont'd**

- Do not weigh in on Party Affiliation(s)
- Complete or Incomplete or Unused Registration Forms must be sent to the County Board of Elections in which the voter resides
- Return forms within 5 days of receipt, but no later than
   25 days before an Election
- Maintain a log of staff/volunteers

Refer to your State's Board of Elections Guidelines for Voter Registration Drives







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#### **Example of Voter Registration Application**

See your State BOE for actual application for your State

North Carolina \	oter Registration Application (Sections in red are required.) 06w
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Political party affiliation	Democratic Party   No Labels Party   Debar
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Contact information this optional information is helpful if we have questions.	10 Pross truil
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#### **Voter Verification Status**

- Mail a non-forwardable, first-class verification notice to the address indicated on the application
  - Applicant considered active pending until address is verified
  - Address is verified 15 days after notice is sent unless notice is returned by Postal Service as undeliverable
- County Board of Elections will send a second verification notice
  - If the Postal Service returns second notice as undeliverable, the voter's registration will be denied
  - No further mailing will be sent to the registrant.

Refer to your State's Board of Elections Guidelines for Voter Verification Status





### **Change of Address**

- Allows voters to update their names or addresses within a county or notify the board of elections of a move outside of that county
- Voter is asked to respond to the mailing within 30 days. If the voter does not respond, the voter will be mailed a traditional address confirmation notice to their existing mailing address.
- If the voter does not respond to that notice within 30 days, the voter's registration status will be changed to "inactive"
- If a voter is deceased, a near relative may use this mailing to report the death so the county board can cancel the registration

Refer to your State's Board of Elections Guidelines for Voter Verification and Change of Address Status







### Suggestions for VREM Partnerships

- NAACP Contact your Local, State or National Offices
- Divine 9 Contact your Local or State or Pan-Hell Councils
- Black Voters Matter Contact your State or National Offices
- Political Black Caucus Contact your Local, State or National Offices
- League of Women Voters Contact your Local, State or National Offices
- National Urban League Contact your Local, State or National Offices
- Religious Based Community Local, State and National Communities







### Absentee Ballot/Vote-by-Mail

If you are unable to cast a vote in-person, you may be able to vote absentee. Rules and requirements for Vote-By-Mail vary from state-to-state. If you wish to cast a ballot in your home state rather than the state you attend school in, this may be an option for you.

If you vote-by-mail, we recommend that you turn your ballot in well before election day due to possible postal service delays.

See your State Deadlines for Absentee Ballot Submissions Especially for Military, <u>College Students</u> and Senior Voters







### Voter ID for Absentee/Vote-By-Mail

- Voters who vote by mail must include a photocopy of an acceptable ID inside the "photo ID envelope" that comes with their ballot in their perspective state or country
- Voters may complete an ID Exception Form with the absentee ballot return envelope
  - The ID Exception Form along with detailed absentee instructions will be available in every packet mailed for your individual state and or country

Refer to your State's Accepted Use of ID







### **District VREM Successes and Best Practices**







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### 1st District Successes & Best Practices 1st District North

- Established Partnership with the Greater Boston Chapter of the A. Phillip
  Randolph Institute to plan a Voter Mobilization Zoom Panel Discussion.
   Partnership will also continue with community events to register voters with the
  use of QR Codes in the months to come
- Plans are also being made to hold a joint Voter Registration Event during the Boston Juneteenth Celebration
- Partnership is also established with the NAACP to organize Voter Registrations and Mobilization Events in the Boston area
- Collaboration scheduled with the Boston Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta,
   Inc. to plan GOTV and VREM Strategies in the Boston area



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## 1st District Successes & Best Practices 1st District South

- Partnering with the ACLU in a vigorous Voter Mobilization and Education
   Campaign to energize the disaffected formerly incarcerated population during the summer into the fall.
- Partnering with the NAACP and their College Chapters to hold forums throughout the state of Connecticut to develop strategies for GOTV and VREM
- Collaboration with District VREM Partner in the North to plan a multi regional panel discussion based on Black Men in America: Road to 2024, which will highlight that discussion produced by Bro,. Charles Coleman Jr. Esq.
   The video focuses on the nuances of being a Black Man in America in a divided nation and the impact on black men voting in 2024.

- Published GOTV Information Cards for Primary Elections
- Published Voter Registration Tool Kit
- Meet with 2nd District Basilei in the 3rd Corridor of Philadelphia PA to share GOTV and VREM Strategies for Primary Election
- 2 lobbying days were held in Annapolis, Maryland and New Jersey.
   100 Omega Men participated in the event. Pennsylvania will hold a lobbying day in the fall, prior to the November Election
- Public Forum was held during The 2nd District Conference featuring Mayor Ras Baraka (Newark, NJ), Bro. State Senator Nick Charles and Bro. Mayor Tim Adams (Bowie, MD) to discuss issues of concern by People of Color.
- General Election Mobilization Plan will be executed post Conclave, focusing on Pennsylvania (swing state) & Maryland (key US Senate race)



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### 3<sup>rd</sup> District Successes & Best Practices

- State of Va Legislature implemented 100% Redistricting for the State
   3<sup>rd</sup> District partnered with The Va Interfaith Center and the League of Women
   Voters on Voter Registrations, due to the redistricting and voters being dropped
   off rolls. Over --- voters were registered with this partnership and registration
   strategy
- Implemented Strategy thru partnerships to get 100% of church members of the Va Interfaith Center registered to vote. Over 16 Churches achieved 100% Registrations
- Held Public and Candidate Forums to hear concerns of citizens
   Focus was in the Ward Area(s) of Washington, D.C.;
   Voter Registration Drives continue and are planned thru the deadline for November 2024 Elections
- Currently Partnered with 28 different organization across the district to implement VREM Execution Plans



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- Hold Registration Events beginning in June; Provide QR Codes for Registrations
- Share Current Events with Public at large through news clips, case verdicts, supreme court decisions & supreme court opinions
- Hosting Voter Precinct Locations and Election Dates & Times for Ohio and West Va
- Provide Election Links and Websites on 4<sup>th</sup> D Social Media Platforms & QR Codes
- Chapters required to provide at least 10 hrs of Phone Banking prior to November Election
- Provide transportation to polls for Sr. Brothers on Election Day
- Track Mail-In Ballot Submission for the 4<sup>th</sup> District
- Track number of Mobilization Efforts to The Polls on Election Day(s)
- Partner with NAACP & Delta Sigma Theta with GOTV Efforts







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- Implemented District VREM Plan that was shared with all Chapters in the 5<sup>th</sup> District
- Worked with Undergrad Chapters with on-campus registrations & GOTV events; \$500 was awarded to chapter with most creative GOTV Campaign
- Voter Registrations are held across both states of Tennessee and Kentucky;
   Registrations held at high school(s) yielded over 200 High School Registrants
- Distribute 10k Election Information Cards to Communities in Tenn & Kentucky
- Hold Non-partisan public forums with elected officials to discuss issues that affect African American Communities
- Partner with NAACP Voter Empowerment Program
- Create Public Service Announcements to GOTV







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- VREM Execution Plan Shared with all Chapters in the District
- VREM Break-out Session held at all Council Meetings; Plan updated & presented at all meetings
- Partnered with District Political Action NC & SC and NAACP Committees & NC & SC D9, NC & SC NAACP, NC Black Alliance, Democracy NC & NC Black Voters Matter to execute VREM Plans; Awarded \$5000 Grant by Black Voters Matter for 6<sup>th</sup> District's NC VREM efforts
- Partner with NC & SC Undergrad Advisors and Undergrad Chapter to execute VREM Plan
- Voter Registration Drives are held across NC & SC; Goal of 4700 Registrants
- District serves as Sr Planner for N.C. D9 Legislative Day; Met with Governor & Legislatures & shared the concerns & needs of People of Color in NC







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- Immediately emphasize the national importance of this 84<sup>th</sup> Grand Conclave with the presence of national leaders speaking to the Brotherhood/Public in person or by video. They would emphasize the importance of this election and the need for everyone to "Get Out the Vote."
- Use our nationally known Brothers in television, radio, and social media, such as Steve Harvey, Rickey
   Smiley, and D. L. Hughley, to do a simulcast either from the Conclave or during the Conclave to highlight to their audience the purpose and of this Conclave and public involvement in voting during the election
- All Districts must add proactive VREM programs emphasizing voter mobilization to District websites, social media platforms, and local news outlets
- Each chapter in each District must partner now with local organizations: Divine 9, NAACP, League of Women Voters, Black Voters Matter, Masonic, interdenominational faith, civic, and social groups for effective mobilization
- Each chapter in each District must conduct get-to-know-the-ballot and candidate forums. Use critical resources Vote411.org and ActiVote
- Each chapter in the District must have a mobilization strategy. Partner with churches, "Soul to the Polls."
- Focus on positive work beyond the myth of the lack of Black Men and Younger Voters (18-40) with persevering emphasis





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- Brothers of the 8<sup>th</sup> District will validate the number of registered brothers within each respective chapter and use as an opportunity for GOTV and VREM Execution Plans
- Each Chapter will identify at least two other organizations to collaborate Voter Registration Drives(schools/D9/etc)
- One Voter Registration Drive will be executed by all Chapters by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 22 days prior to Election Registration Deadline
- Each Chapter will provide Voter Registration results from Chapter Voter Registration Drives to the 8<sup>th</sup> District VREM Lead







- Hold Annual 9<sup>th</sup> District Voter Registration Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in August
- Partner with Undergrad Chapters to engage in GOTV and VREM Execution Plans
- Track Annual Registration Results and communicate to the 9<sup>th</sup> District
- All Chapters are scheduled to have 3 additional Voter Registration Drives post 9<sup>th</sup> District Annual Voter Registration Day
- Partner with NPHC, NAACP, Universities and Civic Clubs and execute Voter Registration Drives
- Execute Door-To- Door Canvassing in low-income neighborhoods to educate citizens on GOTV and VREM initiatives
- "Adopt-A-Neighborhood" is a new initiative in the 9<sup>th</sup> District to educate citizens on the Voting Process and the importance of "Local Elections Matter" and your vote counts
- Host Candidate Forums for citizens to share their needs and concerns for People of Color Communities
- Partner with Faith Based Organizations that provide transportation for Seniors and Disabled to cast their vote on Election Day
- Established Omega Voter Action Project to educate Central Texas residents on the GOTV and VREM Initiatives







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- Held Consistent Talking Points on GOTV and VREM Strategies District Wide
- Held Webinar Candidate Forums with Politicians to discuss GOTV and VREM Strategies for Elections for People of Color across The 10<sup>th</sup> District







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- Continue to produce and distribute the 12 District "Get Out The Vote" Public Service announcements. These announcement begin in September and continue weekly unit the November Election
- Devise a broader social media strategy to distribute messages focused on voter mobilization efforts through various platforms beyond our 12<sup>th</sup> District You Tube Channel
- In June, conduct a 12<sup>th</sup> District Workshop on VREM efforts in the District, with an eye toward tailoring efforts to the Region/State in the District, as registration in most of our District is not an issue
- In July, conduct a 12<sup>th</sup> District workshop on the of Zoom Town Halls to highlight specific election issues and provide candidate forums to promote voter education efforts in the District
- In September and October, have each Region/State in the District, area reps to hold a Region/State Virtual Town Hall to highlight specific issues in the Presidential Election or highlight a particular local race that is important to that Region/State



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- Provided Early Voter Registration to active-duty military service members and civilians who support military communities globally in 18 countries
- Provide Early Voter Registration and Absentee voting information via QR Codes for the www.Vote.org and www.Vote.gov sites at 13<sup>th</sup> District community events
  - Information included how to register and obtain voter registration cards while deployed overseas
- Provided information on early voter procedures for their home of record state and the procedure for applying for absentee vote-bymail Ballots







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### **Your VREM District Leads**

- 1st D Brother Earl Bloodworth 203-535-5354 (North)
- 1st D Brother Greg Dominic 617-799-4794 (South)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> D Brother Derrick Greene 443-413-4545 (Chair)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> D Brother Al Spivey 609-902-8399 (Co-Chair)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> D Brother Sean Lovell 973-573-7908 (Co-Chair)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> D Brother Robert Fairchild 703-899-0111
- 4<sup>th</sup> D Brother Chris Cooper 614-746-3557
- 5<sup>th</sup> D Brother Tony Black 731-267-3156 (Chair)
- 5<sup>th</sup> D Brother Daniel Whitley 859-285-3415 (Co-Chair)
- 6<sup>th</sup> D Brother Randall Eaton 704-562-0013



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### Your VREM District Leads Cont'd

- 6<sup>th</sup> D Brother Patrick Curry 919-279-5592 (Co-Chair)
- 6<sup>th</sup> D Brother Craig Sweeney 864-380-8043 (Co-Chair)
- 7<sup>th</sup> D Brother Ron Ali 251-366-4870 (Chair)
- 7<sup>th</sup> D Brother Randy Johnson 904-669-3287 (Co-Chair)
- 8<sup>th</sup> D Brother Damon Dunson 303-668-2277
- 9<sup>th</sup> D Brother Karlos Jackson 713-899-6230
- 10<sup>th</sup> D Brother Ben Trotter 618-593-0013
- 12<sup>th</sup> D Brother Kelly Harris 206-455-5804 (Chair)
- 12<sup>th</sup> D Brother Kenny Lima 209-629-7960 (Co-Chair)
  - 13th D Brother Darryle Albert 803-552-7915



### **IHQ VREM Leadership Team**

- Grand Basileus Ricky Lewis
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus Mark Jackson
- Community and Civic Affairs Chair Brother Ulysses S.G. Sweeney, IV
- Community and Civic Affairs Vice Chair Brother Kraig Carrere
- VREM Team Lead Brother Randall F. Eaton
- Omega Network For Action Chair

  Former Grand Basileus Dr. David Marion



