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May's Primary Election Ballot Options Defined by Party Affiliation

Kootenai County Clerk Jim Brannon reminds voters that their primary ballot options for the May 20 primary election are, by law, defined by the voter's party affiliation. "Idaho Code 34-904A was implemented in 2011, but with primary elections occurring once every two years, people can forget," said Brannon.

Some people were upset by ramifications of this law during the May 2012 primary election. To help alleviate voter confusion, the County's Elections website has an explanation of party affiliation's connection to primary ballot options. Click on this link: <http://www.kcgov.us/files/elections/partyaffiliation.pdf>

"March 14, 2014 is when voters' ballot options narrow due to party affiliation," Brannon said. "We're providing information now so people have enough time to understand their choices."

In addition to the website notice, Elections staff is sending the attached party affiliation informational brochure to cities, libraries, senior centers, media representatives and political groups so that the broadest cross-section of voters is reached. This brochure can be emailed to any group who would like to distribute it by contacting the Elections department via email at kcelections@kcgov.us.

Elections staff can check voter's current party affiliation, or answer questions about how the law affects primary ballot options, by phone at 446-1030. The Elections department's office hours are Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM, and their location is 1808 N. Third Street in Coeur d'Alene.

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