Broome County Board of Elections Daniel D. Reynolds, Commissioner Christina M. Dutko, Deputy Commissioner

Mark E. Smith, Commissioner Joseph J. Bertoni, Deputy Commissioner

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## \*\*\*BROOME COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS SELECTS CLEAR BALLOT FOR NEW VOTING MACHINES\*\*\*

(BINGHAMTON, N.Y) – The Broome County Board of Elections has selected Clear Ballot Group, Inc. as Broome County's new voting machine and election management system vendor. Marking the first voting machine and election management system replacement since 2008.

The Democratic and Republican Election Commissioners and Deputies unanimously selected Clear Ballot Group's Clear Vote system. The new system will provide enhanced security measures and upgraded scanning technology for election operations, while at the same time changing very little to the voters' experience at their polling locations while casting their ballots.

The Clear Vote System passed the New York State Board of Elections' rigorous certification process in 2023 and has been successfully and securely utilized in Chenango, Onondaga, and Oswego counties.

The new compact ballot marking device and scanner units in the Clear Vote system come in separate, durable, and rugged transport cases. Their handicap accessible design meets ADA standards and the ballot marking device is interactive for inspectors and voters. The LCD screen on the upgraded scanners also offers additional information to voters if problems occur when casting their ballots.

The Broome County Board of Elections previously adopted Clear Ballot Group's Clear Count system, which has been utilized for absentee and affidavit ballot tabulation and as an Election Day and Early Voting auditing tool in Broome County for several years. Combining the Clear Count and Clear Vote systems will allow the Broome County Board of Elections to continue conducting safe, secure, and accessible elections for county voters for years to come.

The Broome County Board of Elections and the New York State Board of Elections successfully conducted acceptance testing to ensure the new, state-certified voting machines are functioning properly and are prepared for use in the upcoming Presidential Primary Election.

The Presidential Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Early Voting begins Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and runs through Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information on early voting locations and voting hours please visit our website at <a href="https://www.broomevotes.com/earlyvoting">www.broomevotes.com/earlyvoting</a>.

A media availability and demonstration of the new voting machines will take place in the Broome County Board of Elections auditorium, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building in Government Plaza, 60 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901 on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. Media outlets are invited to see a demonstration of both the Clear Cast scanner and Clear Mark ballot marking device. The new Clear Ballot voting machines will then be available for the public to view at our offices beginning March 11<sup>th</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup> during normal Broome County Board of Elections hours of operation from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Additional information on the new machines can be found on our website, <a href="www.broomevotes.com/votingmachines">www.broomevotes.com/votingmachines</a>. All required state testing information for the Clear Ballot voting system is publicly accessible on the New York State Board of Elections website at <a href="https://elections.nv.gov/voting-systems-testing">https://elections.nv.gov/voting-systems-testing</a>.

"This is the first time our voting machines have been updated since New York State originally adopted the current model," said Democratic Board of Elections Commissioner Daniel D. Reynolds. "The updated scanning technology and security enhancements in Clear Ballots system will make for a secure and efficient process for both our internal operations and, most importantly, the voters of Broome County." – Dan D. Reynolds, Democratic Broome County Elections Commissioner.

"We are committed to providing safe, secure, and accessible voting options for Broome County voters," said Republican Board of Elections Commissioner Mark E. Smith. "Clear Ballot has a proven track record, and we are excited to enter this next phase in our partnership by utilizing their new, secure voting systems to continue conducting fair and transparent elections for local residents." – Mark E. Smith, Republican Broome County Elections Commissioner

For more information, please contact Christina M. Dutko or Joseph J. Bertoni at (607) 778-2172 or visit our website at www.broomevotes.com.