SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF INDIANA

Todd Rokita
Secretary of State

September 17, 2008

Dear County Chairman,

Thank you for your efforts in preparing your communities for this historic election. As the Chief Election Officer of the State of Indiana, I would like to remind you of the vital role fulfilled by poll workers on Election Day and the responsibility that lies with each political party to nominate such workers. As you prepare, remember these three things:

(1) Under IC 3-6-6-9, county chairmen may nominate individuals to serve as poll workers who meet the requirements listed under IC 3-6-6-7 and IC 3-6-6-39. Please review these citations and disseminate the information to your precinct committee people. You are responsible for ensuring the poll workers you nominate not only meet the listed requirements, but can suitably fulfill the demands of Election Day. This includes ensuring that the person is not related to a candidate to be voted for in the precinct.

(2) Pursuant to IC 3-6-6-13, county chairmen may file the nominations in writing with the circuit court clerk not later than noon, twenty-one days before the election. Though it has become common practice to hold poll worker names until the eleventh hour, for the sake of your county election board please adhere to the set deadline. Additionally, I understand you may be inclined to reserve your best volunteers for partisan activities on Election Day, but I urge you to reconsider. Please do not put politics before process—send only your best and brightest as poll workers on Election Day.

(3) IC 3-6-6-40 requires the county election board to provide training and educational meetings for precinct election officers. Whether attendance is required for all poll workers by the county or not, encourage your poll workers to participate and collaborate with your county election board to publicize the training meetings to your poll workers.

To assist in election preparations, I will be touring the state helping not only county election boards and community groups, but also each party and their candidates prepare for the election. If you are interested in having me and my staff attend one of your meetings to review election procedures, absentee ballot regulations or the photo ID requirement, please contact me or Jason Lunderman, Director of Outreach and Constituent Services via email at jlunderman@sos.in.gov or by phone at 317-234-2962.

With your help, Indiana will have an open, accurate, and fair General Election in which all voters can have the utmost confidence.

Sincerely,

Todd Rokita
Indiana Secretary of State

cc: Democrat Congressional District Chairmen
cc: Republican Congressional District Chairmen
cc: Indiana County Election Boards

The State House, Room 201, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, (317) 232-6531, FAX (317) 233-3283