



**DIRECTIVE 2017-01**

January 31, 2017

To: All County Boards of Elections  
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Updated Election Official Manual and Related Directive

**BACKGROUND**

Consistent with our goal of continuing to provide clear and uniform instructions for all boards of elections, today we are issuing a replacement permanent Directive for an existing chapter of the [Ohio Election Official Manual \(EOM\)](#). This chapter was previously published as a draft Directives on the Secretary of State's website and available for public comment.<sup>1</sup>

As such, the previous Directive that constitutes this chapter is hereby rescinded. All Directives no longer in effect are archived on the Secretary of State's website as required by Ohio law.<sup>2</sup>

**INSTRUCTIONS**

The following updated permanent Directive, and the corresponding chapter of the [EOM](#), is hereby issued and in full, immediate effect:

Directive 2017-02      Chapter 5      Absentee Voting

Boards of elections' members, directors, deputy directors, and staff are strongly encouraged to bookmark the [EOM](#) in the web browser that each person most frequently accesses and use it on a regular, if not daily, basis as an important election administration resource. It is designed for ease of use as an electronic document that contains links to the relevant supporting documentation (e.g., statutes, court decisions, etc.). Because it is an electronic document that can be updated, it is less likely to become an outdated resource as compared to a printed hardcopy. The [EOM](#) is available at:

[http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/Upload/elections/directives/2017/Dir2017-02\\_EOM.pdf](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/Upload/elections/directives/2017/Dir2017-02_EOM.pdf)

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, or any of the EOM-related Directives, please call the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Husted".  
Jon Husted

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3501.053(A).

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3501.053(B).