



Lance F. Gough

Lance F. Gough is now in his 24th year as Executive Director of the Chicago Board of Elections. Mr. Gough manages the day-to-day operations of one of the largest election agencies in the United States with 1.4 million registered voters. Mr. Gough's tenure with the board spans more than three decades – going back to the days of the lever machines – then on through the punch-card systems – and through today's dual balloting systems of optical scanners and touch screens.

Mr. Gough has computer expertise that has helped the Chicago Election Board expand and upgrade technology smoothly, but also community outreach to build ownership in the franchise. In the last year, his team hosted one of the most expansive outreach programs of its kind. "Voter Engagement: 2012," gathered grass-root ideas from business, labor and community groups on ways to increase voter registration and turnout for 2012 – and beyond.

Also this year, Mr. Gough led the successful effort to secure Department of Defense funding for a new on-line ballot accessing and ballot-marking systems for UOCAVA voters. This system led to a 25.4% increase in the military/overseas rate of returned ballots.

Throughout his career, Mr. Gough has implemented best-practices to assist:

- Voters – like the automated text-message system to help voters find their polling places);
- Candidates - like video instruction on how to navigate the petition filing and objection process
- And poll workers – such as the #1 program in the nation for young people, with more than 4,000 working in Chicago polling places each Election Day
- And security – such as GPS tracking of election supply deliveries

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Lance Gough.