Yesterday's Municipal Election

Yesterday, our nonpartisan Election Protection volunteers were out all day ensuring smooth access to the polls and protecting the right of every voter to cast his or her ballot. We worked in collaboration with election officials such as the Cook County Clerk’s Office, who helped troubleshoot and resolve many of the problems our pollwatchers observed in order to ensure a fair and impartial election. We also collaborated with numerous community organizations who work year-round to improve civic engagement in their neighborhoods and towns. Together, we stood up to candidates and campaigns who tried to intimidate and pressure voters.

Thank you to each of our incredible volunteers!
Municipal elections matter too, which is why I'm volunteering with #ElectionProtection today. #VoteApril4 @ChgoCivilRights
"As the day wore on, almost as every hour went by, the process became more and more satisfying and I really felt like, you know what, I am making a difference here. There was a feeling at the end of the day that this was a very very valuable and worthwhile endeavor, experience and role that I played today [...] We make a difference inside those precincts."

- Russell E. Levine, Election Protection volunteer
  Partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Voting in pretrial detention and nursing homes

On March 28, Chicago Lawyers' Committee volunteers collaborated with the Cook County Clerk's Office and Cook County Department of Corrections to deliver ballots to voters in pretrial detention at Cook County Jail. Many individuals voted that day, and personnel from Chicago Lawyers' Committee enjoyed the opportunity to serve as volunteer election judges and as non-partisan poll watchers. Thank you to the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law for your partnership on this initiative!

Chicago Lawyers' Committee will continue protecting the rights of voters in pretrial detention, nursing homes, and other vulnerable communities and ensuring that all eligible citizens have the right to vote.
Yesterday's Municipal Election

Q&A with Beau Tremitiere

Photos by the Office of Cook County Clerk David Orr
Beau Tremitiere is the Editor-in-Chief of the Northwestern University Law Review and previously served as an aide in the United States Senate for Joe Manchin. Beau is a Next Generation Leader with the American Constitution Society, and he serves as co-chair of Election RAVE, a non-partisan campaign to increase electoral participation and education. Last year, Election RAVE led a successful effort to cancel Northwestern and other law school classes on Election Day in order to encourage students and faculty to volunteer at the polls in partnership with Chicago Lawyers’ Committee and other poll watching organizations. This interview was conducted in March 2017.

"I cannot overstate how important our relationship with Chicago Lawyers’ Committee…has been. We would have done good work on our own, but it
was this partnership more than any other that made it exceptional - and your patience in working with me and my peers.

This is a remarkable group of people and I felt really fortunate to get to work with you. We partnered with several other organizations...but there's a reason that I chose to spend my Election Day as an Election Protection volunteer.”