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To: The John Jay College Community  
Re: National Voter Registration Day

Today, on [National Voter Registration Day](#), it's important to remember that voting is a privilege. It's a privilege that many before us fought hard to ensure. It's our way of participating in the political system, and it's our way to raise concerns about important issues that our communities are facing right now—and issues that future generations will be facing in the years to come.

That's why today I'm urging everyone who is eligible to vote to make sure that they're registered. And this fall, I urge you to then follow through and vote. Our General Election Day is November 5, and this year we will have early voting nine days before the general election. In 2018, John Jay students reached a voting rate of 37 percent. That's a 26 percent increase from 2014 voting rates, as seen in the [National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement 2014 & 2018 Campus Report](#). As a community, we're steadily growing when it comes to voter participation, but I know we can do even better in the future.

If you're unable to register, there are other ways that you can engage in the election process—helping others register, educating the community, and assisting voters to the polls. This is our chance to change the trajectory of our communities by the power of our votes.

Democracy has never come easy, and none of us can afford to sit on the sidelines. We have the power, and responsibility, to use our voices by casting a vote, talking to friends and family, and helping others participate in the process.

I encourage you to visit our one-stop voting hub for the John Jay community at our [JJC Rocks The Vote](#) page. There, you can find information about voting rights, new laws reforming our voting process, how to register to vote, details about City Charter proposals, and other issues related to this year's election. I am also excited about the ongoing voter registration efforts and the energy around campus as part of the [JJC Rocks The Vote](#).

As Fierce Advocates for Justice, I encourage every member of the John Jay community to participate in our democracy. Vote. Get your friends and family to vote. Make your voice heard.

Thank you,

Karol V. Mason  
President