



# AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

*“A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE”*

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 22-27, 2014; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

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## Statesmen Elect Mayors to “Take Charge” and Lead Jersey Boys State Cities

*Statesmen cast votes for 18 new Mayors and City Councils*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – The American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) Board of Elections announced the results of municipal elections across Jersey Boys State yesterday. In less than 24 hours, each of the eighteen ALJBS cities has elected a mayor and other city officials. Each mayor was sworn in immediately after the municipal elections.

In the Jersey Boys State structure, mayors are the leaders of their city. From the moment of their election, each mayor is expected to serve as a model statesman and is charged with leading his city in day-to-day operations. Mayors, along with other city officials are responsible for the passage and enforcement of new laws, the general appearance of the city and the city manual.

### Mayors of the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of American Legion Jersey Boys State

ALJBS CITY	MAYOR	HOMETOWN	COUNTY	LEGION POST
Washington	Moustafa Abdelaziz	Leonia	Bergen	#1
Adams	Connor W. Briggs	Mountainside	Union	#3
Jefferson	Andrew Chen	Plainsboro	Mercer	#76
Madison	Brian J. Doyle	Audubon	Camden	#262
Monroe	Jenniston R. Francis	East Brunswick	Middlesex	#248
Jackson	Rohan Garg	East Hanover	Morris	#421
Van Buren	Joseph A. Hollis	Flanders	Sussex	#278
Harrison	Brandon G. Jones	Cinnaminson	Burlington	#156
Tyler	Joseph Leibowitz	Millstone Township	Ocean	#455
Polk	Jeffrey A. Maziarz	Hamilton	Mercer	#31
Taylor	Austin J. Meo	Cranbury	Mercer	#76
Fillmore	Nathaniel J. Onorato	Hasbrouck Heights	Bergen	#106
Pierce	Matthew J. Reda	Pequannock	Morris	#450
Buchanan	Jake L. Ryan	Medford	Burlington	#526
Lincoln	Gabriel V. Silverio	Lyndhurst	Bergen	#139
Johnson	Chuck Smith	Ocean City	Cape May	#531
Grant	Jason B. Weitze	Skillman	Somerset	#12
Hayes	Jonah Yesowitz	Springfield	Union	#228

Prior to municipal elections in each of the eighteen ALJBS cities, statesmen discussed and debated which type of five common New Jersey municipal governments best fits their needs and philosophies. The five types are: 1) Weak Mayor; 2) Strong Mayor; 3) Mayor-Council-Administrator; 4) Commission; and 5) Council-Manager.

The action-oriented approach for teaching civics and government at the local, county and state level allows each statesmen to run for many offices from Athletic Director—to mayor—to county freeholder—and to Boys Nation Senator – among many others. These 924 statesmen hail from more than 325 communities across New Jersey.

### Highlights throughout the week include:

- Notable speakers including Senator Robert Menendez, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, Congressman Leonard Lance, CBS 3 Philadelphia’s Jessica Dean, US Senate candidate Jeffrey Bell, former Congressman Bob Inglis (SC), among many others;
- A college fair featuring nearly 100 institutions from across the country;
- Leadership and career seminars featuring business executives, military representatives, political consultants, law experts and journalists, among other professional experts;
- Election of the 69<sup>th</sup> ALJBS Governor on Thursday, June 26; and

- Election of two Boys Nation Senators on Friday June 27, who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 18-26, 2014.

Notable ALJBS alumni include Governor Christopher Christie (Boys Nation Senator, 1979), Senator Robert Menendez (1971), Senator Cory Booker (1986), Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito (1967), Congressman Leonard Lance (1969) and Assemblyman Herbert Conaway (ALJBS Governor, 1980).

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#### **About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)**

In its 69<sup>th</sup> year, ALJBS is a week-long experience that educates and motivates New Jersey's youth so that each statesman may become a citizen leader dedicated to service, respect, and Americanism. Together, the delegates form the mythical "51st" state of the union each year, where they elect their own local, state, and national representatives. Activities at ALJBS include legislative sessions, general assemblies, court proceedings, athletics, band, and career seminars, among many others. All expenses associated with attending ALJBS are typically donated by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, or a community-based organization. To learn more, please visit [aljbs.org](http://aljbs.org).