

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

A Poll Watcher is not allowed to interact with voters in the polling place or early voting site. When questioning a procedure, the Poll Watcher must direct any inquiry to the precinct Clerk.

Poll Watchers may not wear anything advocating any candidacy or promoting for or against an issue.

Poll Watchers are official observers only. They may observe the conduct of the election before, during and after the polls or early voting sites close. All Poll Watchers must be approved by the Supervisor of Elections Office. The list of designated and approved Poll Watchers is prepared by the Supervisor of Elections Office and provided to each election board.

The Clerk is the sole authority in the polling place on election day and at early voting areas. No other person, may handle or touch election supplies and materials without the Clerk's permission.

If the Poll Watcher believes that a violation has taken place during an election, the Poll Watcher should notify the Clerk.

Electioneering, campaigning or solicitation within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the entrance to the polling room or early voting area is prohibited.

Dear Poll Watchers:

Thank you for assisting on election day or at an early voting site to help insure a good and proper election. It is our purpose, to achieve this worthy goal for Broward County.

Supervisor of Elections
Broward County

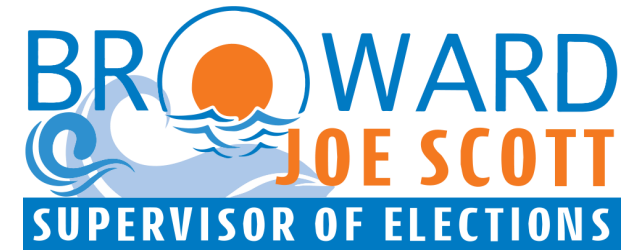


POLL WATCHER INFORMATION

A primary goal of the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) is to help bring about a greater understanding and participation in the electoral process. To this end, SOE staff is available as speakers for civic organizations, schools, groups and the general public.

For more information on election laws and procedures, visit the SOE website at:

www.BrowardVotes.gov



POLL WATCHERS GUIDE



BROWARD COUNTY
Supervisor of Elections Office
PollWatchers@browardvotes.gov
(954) 395-9679 or
(954) 560-7579

WHAT IS A POLL WATCHER?

A person may be asked by a candidate, political party or political committee to go to a polling place or early voting site to observe. Florida law defines this person as a Poll Watcher. The Poll Watcher observes the polling place to determine if any violations of the election laws occur. If such a violation is alleged, the Poll Watcher is to inform the Clerk on site of the violation.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE NEEDED TO BECOME A POLL WATCHER?

According to Florida law, Poll Watchers must be a registered voter in Broward County. Applications for Poll Watchers may be obtained through the candidate, party headquarters, or political committee. Upon execution, and no later than noon on the second Tuesday prior to an election, or at least 14 days prior to the beginning of Early Voting, applications must be filed with the SOE for certification. Either a candidate, party or political committee official must sign each application prior to submitting same to the SOE.

WHO MAY NOT BE A POLL WATCHER?

A candidate, sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or any other law enforcement officers may not be Poll Watchers.

HOW MANY POLL WATCHERS ARE ALLOWED IN A POLLING PLACE?

Each political party, political committee and each candidate is allowed to have one Poll Watcher at each polling place or early voting site at any one time.

WHERE DOES THE POLL WATCHER GET THEIR AUTHORITY?

Florida law and upon receiving requests for Poll Watchers, the Supervisor of Elections shall certify eligible applicants. This is done on or before the Tuesday before Election Day and no later than 7 days before Early Voting begins. A list of the approved Poll Watchers will be furnished to each precinct or early voting site and at www.BrowardVotes.gov.

Approved Poll Watchers will receive Identification Badges which identifies the Poll Watcher by name. Each Poll Watcher must wear his or her identification badge while performing his or her duties.

DOES THE POLL WATCHER NEED ANYTHING?

Poll Watchers are responsible for supplying any materials needed while at the polls or early voting site, i.e. chairs, tables, writing materials, and the like. Poll Watchers may not use the official elections precinct or early voting supplies.

WHAT CAN'T THE POLL WATCHER DO?

Under Florida law, the Poll Watcher:

- May not interfere with or impede the conduct of any election.
- May come no closer to the official table or the voting booths than is reasonably necessary under the circumstance.
- May not interact with the voters, unless there is an observation of questionable nature.
- Is not permitted to speak to the election workers and must direct all inquiries to the precinct / early voting Clerk.

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF A POLL WATCHER?

A Poll Watcher:

- May observe the activities at the polling place or early voting site.
- Has the right to observe the running of the “zero” tape, before the first vote is cast.
- If the Poll Watcher thinks there might be a violation, the Poll Watcher may question a voter’s privilege by stating such reasons to the Clerk.
- May observe the closing of the voting machines, accumulating of votes and the running of the “totals” tape.

QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding the Poll Watcher program, please contact the Supervisor of Elections office.

email:

PollWatchers@BrowardVotes.gov



POLL WATCHER INFORMATION