HELPFUL REMINDERS

POLL WORKERS AT A GLANCE
The people who operate the polling place include the following: Judge of Elections, Majority Inspector, Minority Inspector, Clerk and Machine Inspector. The Judge of Elections serves as the supervisor of the precinct and is responsible for resolving any issues.

Poll Workers
- must carry out their responsibilities according to the law in a non-partisan manner.
- verify that an individual is on the list of registered voters for that polling location, then let them sign in before allowing them to vote on a ballot or voting machine.
- may ask voters for ID only when the poll book indicates that ID is required.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY CHALLENGES
A voter’s eligibility can only be challenged based on a question of their identity or continued residency in the election district.
- These challenges must be made in good faith, meaning based on evidence.
- Such challenges must be directed to, and only to, the Judge of Elections.
- The poll workers have the responsibility of determining the qualifications of the person presenting themselves to vote. In the event of disagreement, the Judge of Elections decides.
- Knowingly refusing a qualified, registered voter is a felony offense.

VOTER RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES
Voters are entitled to vote free from interference and may not be interfered with within 10 feet of the room where the voting machines are located.

Voters may:
- Ask a poll worker if they don’t understand the ballot materials or voting procedures.
- Cast a provisional ballot for any reason, such as when eligibility to vote is unclear.
- Vote if they do not speak English. Under federal law, voters who have difficulty reading or writing English may receive in-person assistance at the polls from anyone except their employer, an agent of their employer or union, and the Judge of Elections.
- Request assistance and anyone can assist a voter except their employer, an agent of their employer or union, and the Judge of Elections. The voter and the person assisting must complete and sign a voter assistance form, which the poll workers can provide.
- Request a new ballot from a poll worker if they make a mistake.
- Vote while wearing partisan clothing.

POLL WATCHERS
Poll watchers, like poll workers, play an important role in ensuring elections are administered properly. A poll watcher is someone who is appointed by a candidate or party to observe the election process.

WHO: Must be a qualified voter from the county they are serving as a poll watcher in and must obtain a certificate from the County Board of Elections that includes their name, as well as the name of the candidate, party, or political body they represent.
- Certificate: They are required to show their completed certificate to poll workers.
- Number per Party:
  - Each candidate may appoint two poll watchers per precinct at primary, general and special elections.
  - Each party may appoint three at general and special elections. Parties cannot appoint watchers at primary elections.

WHAT:
- Are allowed to review the voting check list and numbered lists of voters only when no voters are present in the polling place.
- Should notify the Judge of Elections immediately if they observe any improper behavior; if they don’t believe the issue has been addressed properly, they should then notify the county election office.

WHEN: Poll watchers can observe the set-up of the polling place and remain in the polling place after polls have closed and the precinct breakdown has been completed.

WHERE: Must stay in the area designated for poll watchers by the Judge of Elections

HELPFUL REMINDERS

Poll watchers
- Are not permitted to speak with voters in the polling place or interfere with the orderly process of voting.
- Cannot engage in electioneering while within 10 feet of the entrance to the polling room where the voting machines are located. This includes soliciting votes and posting or displaying campaign materials.
- May only lodge good faith challenges to a voter’s eligibility based on identity or continued residency in the election district. Such challenges must be directed to, and only to, the Judge of Elections.

While the Judge of Elections at the polling place may not deter or interfere with a duly appointed watcher who is exercising their privileges as a watcher, the Judge of Elections is obligated to remove a watcher who is engaging in activities that are prohibited.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS
If you run into any problems or have questions on Election Day, call the Election Protection Hotline:
- English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683
- Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682
- Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US / 1-844-925-5487
- For Bengali, Cantonese, Hindi, Uru, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, or Vietnamese: 1-888-274-8683