

POLL WATCHER REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

- Each poll watcher shall be a qualified and registered voter of the county in which he or she serves, however, no candidate or sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer, or other law enforcement officer may be designated as a poll watcher.
- Each party, each political committee and each candidate requesting to have poll watchers shall designate, in writing, **prior to noon of the second Tuesday preceding the election**, poll watchers for each polling room on Election Day. The poll watchers shall be approved by the supervisor of elections on or before the Tuesday before the election.
- Each political party and each candidate may have one watcher in each polling room or early voting area at any one time during the election to watch and observe the conduct of electors and officials.
- Poll watchers shall pose any questions regarding polling place procedures directly to the Precinct Clerk for resolution.
- Poll watchers may not interact with voters.
- The list of voters who have checked-in at that precinct shall be available for inspection during regular voting hours by poll watchers, except that the clerk may regulate access to the list so as to ensure that such inspection does not unreasonably interfere with the orderly operation of the polling place.
- Any poll watcher may challenge the right of a person to vote. The challenge must be in writing and contain an oath as prescribed by statute, which shall be delivered to the clerk or inspector. The clerk shall immediately deliver to the challenged person a copy of the oath of the person entering the challenge, and the challenged voter shall be allowed to cast a provisional ballot.
- Upon arrival at the polling place, a poll watcher must check in with the Precinct Clerk. The poll watcher will be asked to show his or her identification badge received from the City Clerk's Office.
- Poll watchers are required to furnish their own materials and necessities.
- Poll watchers may not use poll worker equipment or supplies.
- Poll watchers are required to bring their own food and drinks.
- Poll watchers are allowed (as is any member of the public) to observe opening and closing procedures, but may not speak to, or interfere with, the Election Board in any way. The Clerk will direct the poll watcher to a designated area away from the voting equipment and voter check-in table.
- Poll watchers may not walk around the voting area.
- Poll watchers are prohibited from wearing political advertisements such as T-shirts, buttons, hats, etc. while they are observing in the polling place or early voting site.
- A poll watcher may not volunteer to help voters who need assistance. A poll watcher may only provide assistance to a voter if specifically requested by that voter and the proper procedures for providing assistance are followed.
- Poll watchers may not bring radios, television sets, cameras or newspapers into the polling room/early voting site.
- Poll watchers may not obstruct the orderly conduct of any election.