

## POLLWATCHER CHECKLIST

**BE RESPECTFUL OF THE JUDGES AND KNOW ELECTION LAWS!**

- **Pollwatch** if you are a registered voter in Illinois
- **Get Credentials** from a valid candidate, organization, political party, or ballot position within the jurisdiction  
**SEE CHART ON BACK**
- **Incident Report**—fill in prior to election
- **Arrive** at poll as early as judges
- **Sign in** upon arrival and in and out of the poll during the day and after election
- **Observe** the equipment and procedures before, during, and after the election
- **Ask** names and affiliation of judges and all technicians and couriers
- **Document** name of other pollwatchers
- **Observe** the zero tape, serial number of machines, and memory cards
- **Observe judge bias of voting machines**
- **Observe** voter application books, signatures (can go behind judge table)
- **Observe** that judges initialize ballots
- **Question** judges if there are unauthorized people in poll. Ask judges if they have pollwatcher credentials.
- **Authorized personnel**---election authorities, attorneys general, states attorney. A uniformed police officer has **NO** authority over the conduct of election **UNLESS** a criminal violation occurs.
- **Talk** to voters, judges if they engage you
- **Make every effort to enfranchise voters if eligible**

**SEE BALLOT ENTITLEMENT SHEET:**

[www.elections.il.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/BallotEntFeb2008.pdf](http://www.elections.il.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/BallotEntFeb2008.pdf) -

- **Assist** a voter with voting *if they ask you*.
- Ensure that **assisted** voters and those that assist them fill out an affidavit. If assisted, **in poll booth** one judge from each party must oversee voting
- If the judges are not following election laws, please politely site the correct law- **SEE VOTERS' RIGHTS SHEET**
- Once sited, if the judges fail to remedy the legal error, then call an authority of election and / or party or organization
- **Get names of voters**—if they were harassed, disenfranchised, not informed of poll location / other incident / contest
- **Fill-in** checklist of machine failures
- **Fill-in** the election affidavit if needed
- **Contest a voter**—if they are **not** eligible, already voted, appear to be tampering with an election machine, do not have an affidavit when assisted, take a **VERY LONG** time to vote (especially if they have a cell phone and appear to be getting instruction!) Every effort must be made to allow time to vote, though Illinois law states 4 minutes maximum.

**SEE SHEET FOR ELIGIBLE VOTERS**

- Determine if ender card is available
- **Ask for a print out of the poll tapes at the conclusion of the election.**
- **During Tabulation**—Illinois law states a **reasonable** number of pollwatchers, are allowed to pollwatch, but in DuPage one member from each political party may view tabulation.

### **A POLLWATCHER MAY OBSERVE:**

- Lottery procedures for party and candidate placement on the ballot
- At polls on election day or during early voting periods
- At nursing home, or assisted care when votes are cast

### **A POLLWATCHER MAY OBSERVE:**

- Verification of registration of provisional voters after the election
  - During the tabulation of the vote
  - During absentee ballot counting
  - May need permission from a political party or organization

**A POLLWATCHER MAY NOT:**

- **Interfere** with the election
- **Touch** any election materials or supplies
- **Electioneer** within 100' of polls
- **Take** video or pictures ***unless*** allowed by the jurisdiction
- **Remain** at poll when asked to leave by a judge

**NUMBER OF POLLWATCHERS ALLOWED IN POLLING PLACE**

**DURING ELECTIONS**

APPOINTING AUTHORITY	Consolidated Primary General Primary	Consolidated General General Election
MAYOR	TWO (2)	TWO (2)
CITY CLERK	ONE (1)	TWO (2)
WARDEN	ONE (1)	ONE (1)
PROSECUTOR GENERAL	ONE (1)	ONE (1)