

## The Voting Process~

- ◆ In every election, the voting place shall open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Voting hours may be extended at the direction of a court order or the State Board of Elections.
- ◆ Upon the request of the precinct official, the voter shall announce his/her name, address, and, if a primary election, party affiliation. Beginning in 2016, voters also will need to show an acceptable photo identification (photo ID) to the precinct official.
- ◆ If the voter is found to be duly registered and is not successfully challenged, he/she shall sign the pollbook, other voting record, or voter authorization document and be given a ballot.
- ◆ If the voter is challenged, the presiding precinct officials shall meet and determine the merit of the challenge.
- ◆ The voter may request and receive any information or lawful assistance that will enable the voter to vote as he/she so desires.
- ◆ If the voter spoils the official ballot, he/she may request up to three replacement ballots.
- ◆ No person shall be allowed to occupy the voting booth with the voter except a spouse, child, or persons rendering lawful assistance.
- ◆ No voter shall re-enter the voting enclosure after having completed the voting process.
- ◆ Voters in line to vote at 7:30 p.m. will be allowed to cast their ballots.
- ◆ Voters who vote after 7:30 p.m. due to a federal or state court order shall vote a provisional ballot.

## Identification Requirements~

### VIVA (Voter Information Verification Act)

Beginning in 2016, North Carolina law will require voters to show acceptable photo ID when they present to vote in person. Acceptable photo ID for purposes of voting are: an unexpired NC driver license or non-operators identification card; an unexpired U.S. passport; a U.S. military identification card; a Veterans Identification Card; a tribal enrollment card issued by a North Carolina or federally recognized tribe; and an out-of-state driver license or non-operators identification card, but only if voter's registration date in the county is within 90 days of the date of the election.

### HAVA (Help America Vote Act)

There are certain voters who **will** be required to show some form of identification when they present to vote – either “in person” or when voting “by mail.” First-time voters, who at the time of their initial voter registration did not provide their N.C. driver license number or the last four digits of their Social Security number, or who provided a number that could not be validated, **will** be required to show identification when they vote. This identification does not have to be a photo ID. The requirement for first-time voters to show identification is a requirement of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, a federal law not unique to North Carolina. Acceptable forms of HAVA ID include:

- A current and valid photo identification;
- A copy of one of the following documents that show the name and address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

## Voter Information— \_\_\_\_\_ County, North Carolina

Election Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

## Casting a Provisional Ballot~

Any individual who claims to be a registered voter in a jurisdiction but does not appear on the official list of registered voters may cast a provisional ballot under the following procedure:

- ◆ The election official shall inform the individual that they may cast a provisional ballot.
- ◆ The individual shall execute a written affirmation stating that he is a registered voter in the jurisdiction and is eligible to vote in the election.
- ◆ The election official shall provide the individual casting a provisional ballot written information stating that anyone casting a provisional ballot can find out whether the ballot was counted, to what extent it was counted, and if it was not counted, the reason why.
- ◆ After voting the ballot, the provisional voter shall place it in the provisional ballot envelope and return the sealed envelope to the election official.
- ◆ The election officials shall place all voted provisional ballots in a secure location. At the close of polls, those ballots shall be transported to the county board of elections, observing procedures for maintaining ballot security at all times.
- ◆ The county board of elections shall determine the individual's eligibility and count all the ballot items for which the individual was eligible to vote.
- ◆ Individuals voting a provisional ballot because of failure to provide the required identification may submit their identification to the county board of elections up to the close of business on the day before the County Canvass, which is held 10 days following Election Day for general elections held in November of even-numbered years and 7 days following all other elections.

## Your Voting Rights~

- ◆ Any qualified US citizen is entitled to vote without regard to disability, race, or color, with no literacy tests employed.
- ◆ Voters, while in the process of registering or voting, shall not be intimidated, threatened, or coerced by any person.
- ◆ A provisional ballot may be cast by a person in a jurisdiction if the person's name does not appear on the official list of registered voters of that precinct.
- ◆ When voting a provisional ballot, the voter shall be provided written information on how to find out whether or not the vote was counted. If the vote was not counted or partially counted, voters are entitled to know the reason.
- ◆ Voters needing assistance may receive as much assistance as is requested by the voter and authorized by North Carolina law.
- ◆ Qualified citizens shall be permitted to register up to the 25th day before the election.
- ◆ Voters who have moved within their assigned precinct or changed their name without notifying the appropriate Board of Elections shall be allowed to update that information prior to voting and vote following procedures adopted by the county board of elections.
- ◆ Voters, whose right to vote has been challenged and sustained, are eligible to vote a challenged ballot.
- ◆ Voters shall have the right to vote in an accessible polling place.

## Contact Information~

If you believe that your voting rights or the voting rights of others have been violated, please contact one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Elections

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_

CSZ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Web \_\_\_\_\_

**NC State Board of Elections**

PO Box 27255

Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: 919-733-7173

Fax: 919-715-0135

Toll-free: 1-866-522-4723

Email: elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov

Web: www.ncsbe.gov

**US Department of Justice**

Chief, Voting Section

Civil Rights Division

Room 7254-NWB

950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

Washington, DC 20530

Phone: 202-307-2767

Toll-free: 1-800-253-3931

## Federal & State Law Violations~

- ◆ Persons shall not intentionally give false information, written or oral, in order to register to vote or to obtain a ballot.
- ◆ Persons shall not pay, offer to pay, or accept payment for voting, registering to vote, withholding their vote, or for voting in any particular manner.
- ◆ Persons shall not obtain or cast false, fraudulent, or fictitious ballots.
- ◆ Persons shall not vote more than once in any given election.
- ◆ Persons shall not vote in the name of another person, living or dead.
- ◆ Persons shall not attempt to persuade, influence, threaten or coerce any voter into voting for candidates or referendums not of the voter's choice.
- ◆ Persons shall not make false entries on election records.
- ◆ Persons shall not steal, destroy or hide any registration or election records.
- ◆ Persons shall not feign a physical disability in order to have persons of their choice assist them.
- ◆ Persons shall not be registered in more than one jurisdiction at a time.

## Your Voting Responsibilities~

All voters shall:

- ◆ Register to vote no less than 25 days prior to Election Day.
- ◆ Adhere to all federal and state laws.
- ◆ Be informed and follow all voting procedures as established by the state and county boards of elections.
- ◆ Notify the county board of elections office of any change in registration information such as name and/or address.
- ◆ Respect the privacy and voting rights of others.
- ◆ Immediately report any problems with equipment, violations of civil rights, or other illegal activities to the proper officials.
- ◆ Treat all election officials and voters with courtesy and respect.
- ◆ Review the ballot for accuracy before casting.