

Q4 2020

# HOW TO STOP VOTER INTIMIDATION AND PREPARE YOUR EMPLOYEES FOR “ELECTION WEEK”

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FLORIDA EMPLOYER TOOLKIT



**BUSINESSFORWARD**  
FOUNDATION

# INTRODUCTION

The 2020 election will be among the most contentious in recent history. Florida's most respected CEOs are committed to protecting the most vulnerable among us – and to rejecting those trying to divide us. We encourage you to join them.

This toolkit is designed to help you talk with your neighbors who may support outside groups pledging to disrupt voting places across Florida. These groups claim to be preventing voter fraud, but exhaustive research by law enforcement officials from both Parties and across the U.S. debunks these claims.

We also provide advice and links to non-partisan resources for helping you and your employees register and vote. For those who want to do more, we provide links for serving as a poll worker or watcher.

A COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF VOTER IMPERSONATION FINDS 31 CREDIBLE INCIDENTS OUT OF ONE BILLION BALLOTS CAST

*The Washington Post*

AUGUST 6, 2014  
JUSTIN LEVITT

MINNESOTA'S 0.000004% VOTER FRAUD CITED AS GOP SUIT TOSSED

**Bloomberg**

OCTOBER 12, 2020  
ERIK LARSON

TRUMP COMMISSION FOUND NO WIDESPREAD VOTER FRAUD, REPORT SAYS

*Los Angeles Times*

AUGUST 3, 2018  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A FEDERAL JUDGE ASKED THE TRUMP CAMPAIGN FOR EVIDENCE OF MAIL-IN VOTER FRAUD. THEY COULDN'T DELIVER

The  INDEPENDENT

AUGUST 22, 2020  
RICHARD HALL

## TOPLINE: TO STOP VOTER INTIMIDATION, YOU MUST (1) DEBUNK THE LIES JUSTIFYING IT, AND (2) EXPLAIN WHAT THOSE LIES COST YOUR COMMUNITY

1. Republican campaigns and outside groups are recruiting supporters to police polling places and deter what they describe as “widespread voter fraud.”
2. They exaggerate the problem of voter fraud by a factor of 5,000 with two goals in mind: to (1) recruit poll “watchers,” and (2) spread distrust of election results.
3. These groups are targeting our most vulnerable communities -- and they will be targeting polling places that are among our most poorly staffed (with the longest lines).
4. Local business leaders can debunk false voter fraud claims. Perhaps more important, they can explain how important supporting vulnerable communities is to your state’s economy and competitiveness.

“

I’ll look for... well, it’s called racial profiling. Mexicans. Syrians. People who can’t speak American... I’m going to go right up behind them... I’m going to make them a little nervous.

”

- STEVE WEBB  
FAIRFIELD, OHIO  
OCTOBER, 2016<sup>1</sup>

# FIVE THINGS YOU CAN DO

**1. HELP YOUR EMPLOYEES REGISTER AND VOTE.**

**2. DEBUNK FALSE CLAIMS ABOUT VOTER FRAUD.**

**3. PREPARE YOUR EMPLOYEES FOR EXTENDED BALLOT-COUNTING AND A DELAYED DECISION.**

**4. STAND UP FOR VOTERS MOST LIKELY TO BE HARASSED.**

**5. SERVE AS A POLL WORKER OR POLL WATCHER.**



# HELP YOUR EMPLOYEES REGISTER AND VOTE

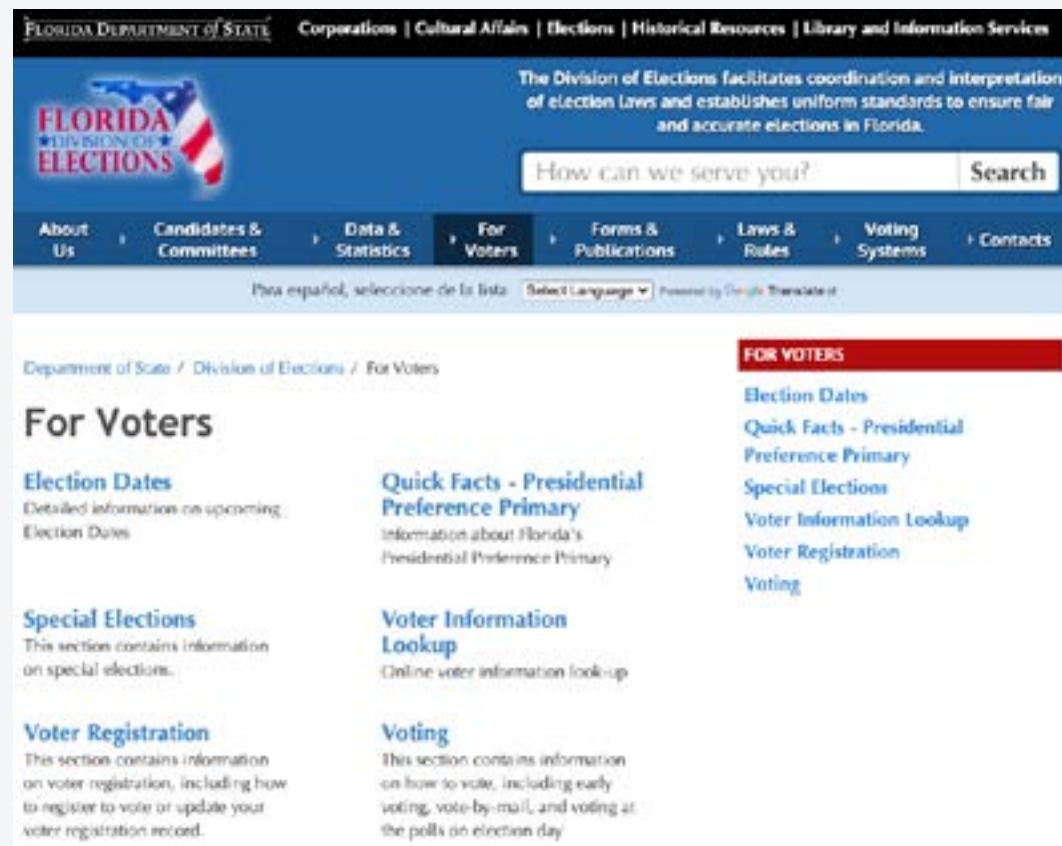
**1.** HELP YOUR TEAM FIND THE BASICS ON REGISTRATION, EDUCATION, AND WHEN/WHERE/HOW TO VOTE.



**VOTE.ORG**



**FLORIDA VOTER INFORMATION**



**2.** REMEMBER “DOS” AND “DON’TS.”



**DO**

ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO VOTE



**DON'T**

ENCOURAGE THEM TO VOTE FOR A PARTICULAR CANDIDATE.

**3.** ENCOURAGE THEM TO VOTE EARLY.

Lines are shorter. It's also easier for workers with young children, a second job, or night classes.

Chances are, your employees don't know when early voting starts.



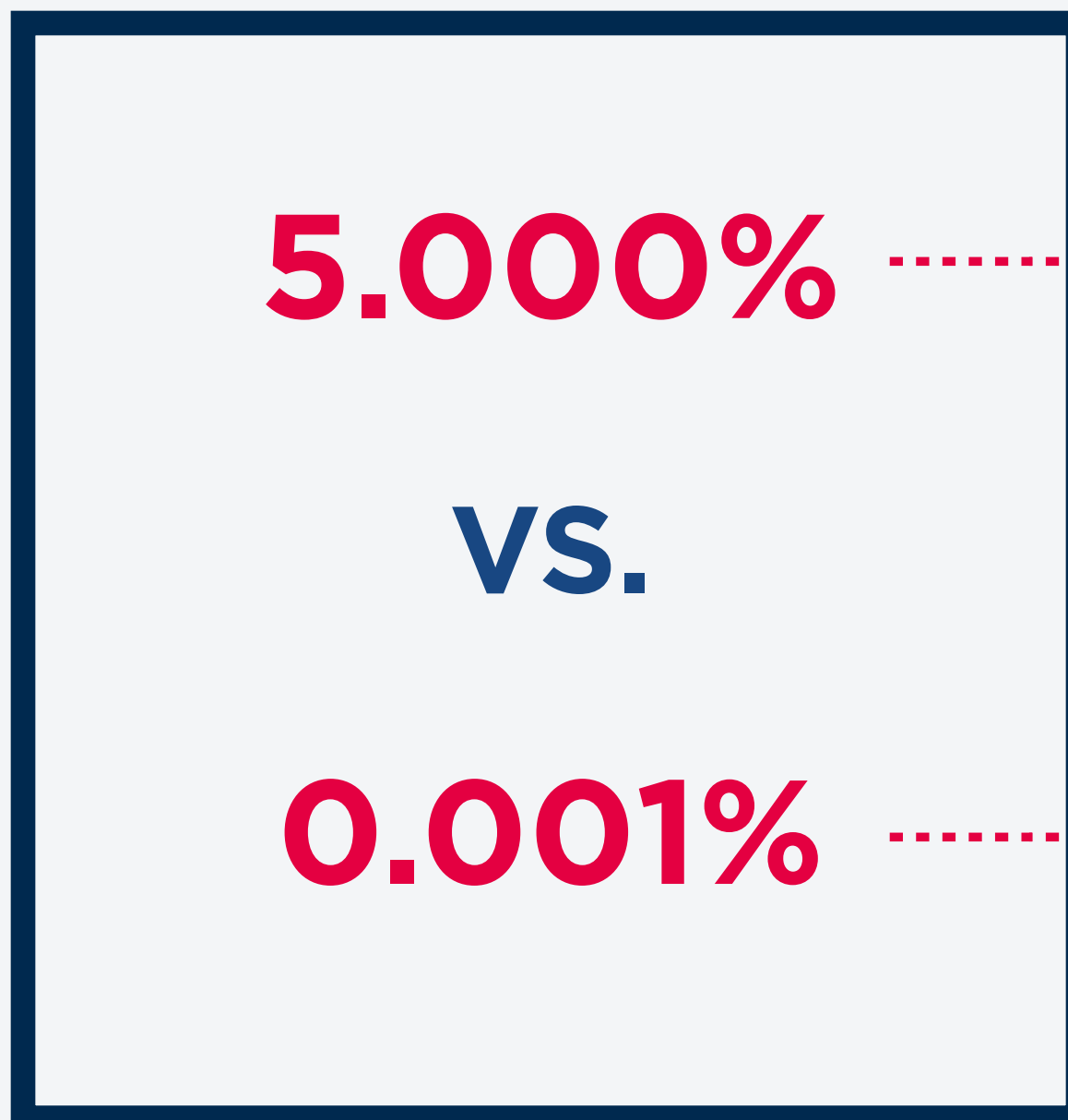
# DEBUNK VOTER FRAUD CLAIMS

## COMPREHENSIVE EVIDENCE VS. UNSUPPORTED CLAIMS

Outside groups claim up to 5% of votes cast are fraudulent.<sup>2</sup>

The most recent and comprehensive investigation by U.S. election officials examined nearly 12 million ballots across five states (2016). It found only 0.001% may have been fraudulent.<sup>3</sup>

So what's the difference between their unfounded claim of 5% and 0.001%?



## ACROSS 140 MILLION VOTES

UNFOUNDED CLAIM (1 IN 20):

**7,000,000**

FRAUDULENT VOTES

ACTUAL AUDIT (1 IN 100,000):

**1,400**

FRAUDULENT VOTES

# SHARE THE FACTS ON VOTE SECURITY

## PROTECTIONS AGAINST FAKE BALLOTS

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Each city or county produces its own ballots, with specific paper stock and color, security envelopes, return envelopes, and time stamps.

This makes it impossible for a foreign country to manufacture millions of fake ones, as President Trump suggests.<sup>4</sup>

## PROTECTIONS AGAINST DOUBLE-VOTING

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President Trump has asked his supporters in NC to vote twice (once by mail, then again in person).<sup>5</sup>

They'll be wasting their time. NC, like other states, removes voters who've already voted by mail from the rolls on election day.

Also, ballots are numbered and bar-coded, so they can't be counted twice.<sup>6</sup>

## CLAIMS OF "BUSLOADS" OF OUT OF STATE VOTERS

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President Trump claims he lost NH in 2016 because thousands of non-residents were bused in from out of state to vote against him.

Investigators found that buses were filled with NH voters being transported from their NH nursing homes, apartment buildings, and college dorms to local polling locations. Some of the buses were rented from companies in MA, VT, and ME.

In other words, the buses had out of state plates, but they were filled with in state voters.<sup>7</sup>

## CLAIMS OF "THOUSANDS" OF DEAD VOTERS

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High-profile investigations in GA, MD, MI, MO, NH, NJ, and NY disproved fraud involving deceased voters.

Each attributed the problem to flawed matches of lists from one place (death records) to another (voter rolls).

The most common causes were matching errors (the voter list had multiple "John Smiths") or clerical errors (the clerk checked the wrong John Smith off the list).<sup>8</sup>



**1 IN 4**  
Americans vote  
by mail.<sup>9</sup>

**28 STATES**  
already encourage  
vote-by-mail (without asking  
for a reason).<sup>10</sup>



It's enjoyed bipartisan  
support for years.<sup>11</sup>



The 5 states that vote  
exclusively by mail have  
higher turnout and  
lower costs.<sup>12</sup>


**.001%**  
POTENTIAL  
VOTING FRAUD

In 2016, a study of 5  
states - focused on 3 that  
exclusively vote by mail -  
reported 112 cases of  
potential fraud out of  
11.5 million ballots.<sup>13</sup>

Their experience  
demonstrates there's  
higher risk of error or fraud  
from in-person voting  
than mail-in voting.<sup>14</sup>

That's because voters often  
show up at the wrong polling  
location, whereas mailed  
ballots go to only those who  
can use them.



  
Covid-19 makes crowded  
polling places dangerous for  
seniors and those with  
underlying conditions.

Meanwhile, states rely  
heavily on seniors to serve  
as poll workers. With seniors  
staying away, state polling  
places will be shorthanded.



## PREPARE YOUR EMPLOYEES FOR “ELECTION WEEK”

### A CONCLUSIVE OUTCOME ON ELECTION NIGHT IS UNLIKELY

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1. Some states will accept ballots post-marked on election day, which means vote totals for these states could take more than a week.
2. On election night, some states count mail-in ballots first; some last. This could affect early vote totals -- but not the final result.
3. Setting expectations early will encourage patience and help your employees manage anxiety.

### A WINNER ON ELECTION DAY IN NOVEMBER? DON'T COUNT ON IT

*The New York Times*

JUNE 24, 2020  
SHANE GOLDMACHER

### THIS NOVEMBER, ELECTION NIGHT COULD STRETCH INTO ELECTION WEEK OR MONTH

*npr*

JUNE 13, 2020  
MILES PARKS

### DECLARING 2020'S WINNER COULD WELL HINGE ON HOW QUICKLY STATES COUNT MAIL BALLOTS

*THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.*

SEPTEMBER 19, 2020  
ALEXA CORSE

# HELP VOTERS WHO NEED IT MOST

Even in normal times, some voters need more help than others. During a pandemic, looking out for younger voters and vulnerable communities is critical.

## YOUNG PEOPLE VOTE 20% LESS THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE<sup>15</sup>



## PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE MORE LIKELY TO FACE OBSTACLES TO VOTING

### TIME SPENT WAITING TO VOTE

A 2019 study of the 2016 presidential election found that, relative to entirely-white neighborhoods, residents of entirely-black neighborhoods waited

**29%**

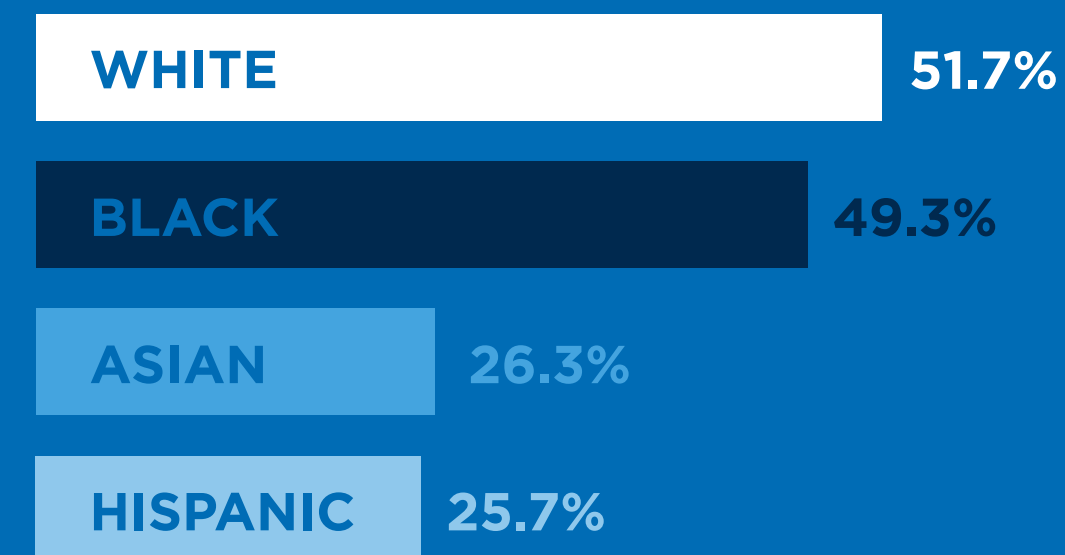
longer to vote and were

**74%**

more likely to spend 30 minutes at their polling place.<sup>16</sup>

### VOTING RATES BY RACE

(AVERAGE TURNOUT AS % OF TOTAL VOTING AGE POPULATION: 2000-2018)<sup>17</sup>



## ACT NOW



CLICK THE LOGOS BELOW TO HELP NOW

**VOTOLATINO**★

**ROCK THE VOTE**

Student PIRGs  
**New Voters Project**

THE NATIONAL  
Coalition on Black  
Civic Participation

**nextgen  
america** ➔

# JOIN LOCAL CEOS STANDING UP FOR FLORIDA'S MOST VULNERABLE

“ Sadly, systemic racism has been a part of our country for generations. It is no longer enough to be non-racist and inclusive. We must actively choose to be anti-racist. This means looking intentionally at our choices with the lens of fairness and equality. It also means standing up for what is right and speaking up for those who have no voice. ”

- WENDY H. STEELE  
FOUNDER & CHIEF EXECUTIVE, IMPACT100 COUNCIL  
BELLEAIR BLUFFS, FL<sup>18</sup>

“ The passionate, ongoing conversation about racism and social justice in America is well overdue. As a firm whose values include fairness, integrity and social responsibility, we recognize that we must play a role in this conversation... We must stand up for social justice and find our place in real work to eliminate racism. ”

- BLAIN HECKAMAN  
CEO, KAUFMAN ROSSIN  
MIAMI, FL<sup>20</sup>

“ I do have hope in the midst of tragedy and turmoil. I believe this is the best chance in my lifetime for us to transform our society into one that truly provides opportunity and justice for all. Change starts from within, so let's capitalize on this moment and create the change we want to see in our own company. ”

- WILLIAM M. BROWN  
CEO, L3HARRIS TECHNOLOGIES  
MELBOURNE, FL<sup>22</sup>

“ The hardships and injustices that have and continue to impact the African-American community are painful to watch and difficult to comprehend. And as a citizen of this country and a leader of this organization, I must admit that I'm struggling with what my role should be. But I am not giving up... We should communicate and learn... And, most importantly, we should demand better. ”

- JAY MONAHAN  
COMMISSIONER, PGA TOUR  
PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL<sup>19</sup>

“ As a firm and as a profession, we have a long way to go on this journey. We know there are no simple solutions, but we are pledging to do all we can at Raymond James to be an agent of meaningful, positive and lasting change in support of more justice, well-being and humanity for the Black community. ”

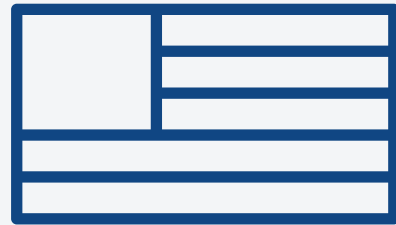
- RAYMOND JAMES  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL<sup>21</sup>

“ Racism is real. Not just here in the U.S., but around the world. Injustice and brutality are real. They've been with us forever despite many efforts to eradicate both... And through the greatest platform that I have available to me to effect change, as CEO of Carnival Corporation, I want to provide the support and the motivation for our people... ”

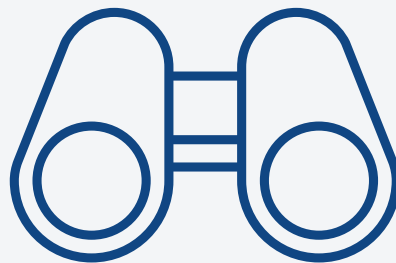
- ARNOLD DONALD  
CEO, CARNIVAL CORPORATION & PLC  
MIAMI, FL<sup>23</sup>

# BECOME A POLL WORKER OR POLL WATCHER

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A POLL WORKER VS. POLL WATCHER?



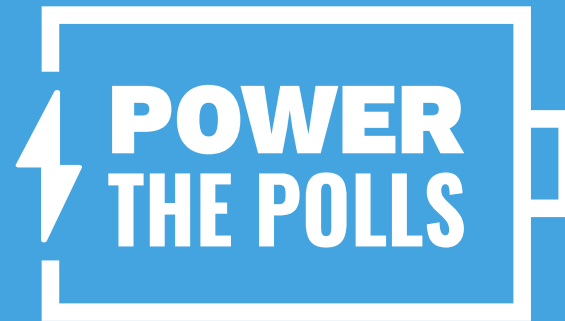
**POLL WORKERS** are trained by local election boards to identify problems and serve at polling places on Election Day. It's a nonpartisan role that simply works to ensure a successful election process.



**POLL WATCHERS** are recruited by political parties to protect people casting their vote. They monitor incidents of voter intimidation and work with voters and election officials to address problems at the polls.

## BECOME A POLL WORKER

### NATIONAL



### POWER THE POLLS

We are proud to partner with this new initiative from [Work Elections](#), teaming up with businesses and coalitions to promote civic engagement and poll worker recruitment.



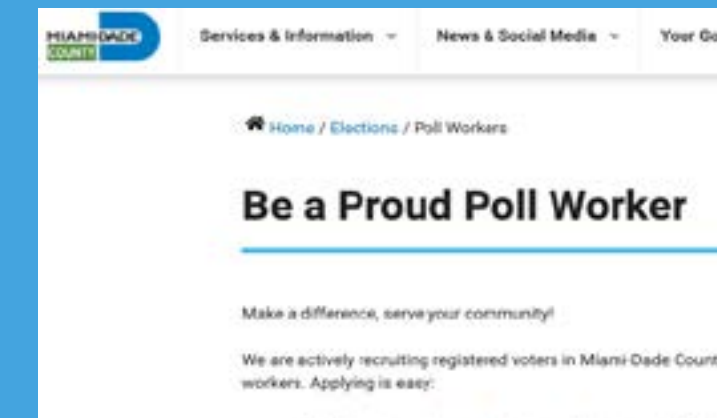
### HELP AMERICA VOTE

September 1st is National Poll Worker Recruitment day. [Click here](#) to learn more about working at your local polling place.

### FLORIDA NEEDS POLL WORKERS

All 67 Florida counties have their own supervisor of elections. [Find yours](#) and sign up to be a poll worker through their site:

#### MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



#### BROWARD COUNTY



#### PALM BEACH COUNTY



## HELP YOUR PARTY AT THE POLLS

### CLICK HERE FOR MORE ON POLL WATCHERS

Check with party leadership in your county for the opportunity to become a poll watcher.

### NCSL POLL WATCHER QUALIFICATIONS IN FLORIDA:

“A “qualified and registered elector” in the county in which he/she will serve; one per party and one per candidate, cannot be candidate or law enforcement officer. Must wear a badge identifying them by name.”<sup>24</sup>

# RESOURCES: GET INFORMED AND INVOLVED

## VOTER REGISTRATION



#VOTETOGETHER



I am a voter.®

HeadCOUNT.ORG

VOTE.ORG

ELECTIONDAY.ORG

IGNITE

ROCK THE VOTE

TurboVote

THE VOTING INFORMATION PROJECT

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



## INFORMATION ABOUT CANDIDATES AND ISSUES

BallotReady®

BALLOTPEDIA

## WHEN, WHERE & HOW TO VOTE



FLORIDA VOTER INFORMATION

VOTE.ORG

## VOTER ACCESS

Democracy is GOOD FOR BUSINESS

VoteSafe ✓

FAIR ELECTIONS CENTER

FAIR FIGHT

ALL VOTING IS LOCAL

ACLU

WHEN WE ALL VOTE

VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS

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