

POLL WATCHER TRAINING

• Pollwatchers:

The following is a list of the specific actions of the inspectors and clerks which the pollwatchers should "keep an eye on.": 1. Make sure that all persons individually sign the poll lists as they enter the polling place. If they can write, don't let anyone-else sign their name. (175) If the voters cannot write, an election official will write the name of the voter on the poll list and the voter will make his mark, an X or similar symbol by his name. The poll watcher should make sure the election official signs the name of the voter and no other name. In case there is graft in the election and on inspection has to be made afterwards, the signature is the only proof that this person voted. Otherwise, a crooked election official could sign no name or someone else's name and later claim this person didn't vote in the election.

2. Each ballot will have a two inch square at the bottom. Made sure the number in the square is the same as the number on the poll list which the voter signs or has signed for him when he enters the polling place. The "poll list" is the list of people voting. This is to prevent persons from adding ballots of persons who didn't vote or throwing away the ballots of people that did vote.

3. Make sure there is no recess in the course of the election. (133) Do not allow the election officials to close the polls between *:00 a.m. and 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., depending upon when the polls officially close (172) If it did close, election officials could tamper with the ballots.

4. In order that everyone will have a secret ballot, make sure the black seal is placed over the number on the bottom of the ballot. (180) The black seal has glue around the edges but nothing in the center.

5. Make sure that people who can't read and write are provided the assistance of any person they select. The person they choose can enter the voting booth with the voter that can't read, but can remain in there only five minutes. (176). They should then leave the polling place with the voters. The person they choose to assist them can be a friend, relative, minister or anyone else except a candidate in the election. (177)

opened. (194). This certificate along with a copy of the poll list should be presented to the probate judge. In case of loss or mutilation of the original certificate, the probates' copy shall be accepted as the final results of the election for that voting place. (139).

16. The original copy of the certificate of the election along with the poll lists and votes must be sealed up in a wood or tin box fastened with locks, and then given to the returning officer who is to give the box to the sheriff of the county. The votes are to be rolled up and labeled to show how many voters each candidate received. The rejected ballots are also ballots are also to be rolled up and placed in the box. (195) These must be presented by the returning officer to the sheriff within forty-eight hours after the election. (197) The sheriff keeps the sealed boxes for six months and then takes the packages out of the box and without breaking the seals, destroys them unless such box is legally demanded by grand jury before the six months has expired. (196)

17. The results of the election are to be officially announced at the county courthouse by the returning officer of the county, the judge of probate, and the clerk of the circuit court immediately after they have tallied the certificates of elections from the various voting places. This tabulation begins at noon on Tuesday. (199 & 200)

18. If no inspectors are present at 3:00 a.m. the qualified voters present at the polls choose the election officials from among themselves and begin the first fifty people and each one hundred above fifty.

19. No votes shall be counted until the election is over.

20. The poll watchers must be familiar with the duties of all the election officials. The duties of the election officials are as follows:

A. INSPECTOR: 1. Shall meet at the place of election by eight in the morning and open the polls before 9:00 a.m. (131) The sheriff should have provided at the polling place a voting booth or compartment for the first fifty people and each one hundred above fifty.

6. Persons that make a mistake in their ballot or accidentally tear or rip it can get second and third ballots from the inspectors. (178).

7. A watcher can only watch. He cannot help anyone such as people that can't read and write and he cannot perform any of the duties of the election officers. (chap. 2)

8. Made sure the returning officers is not a watcher. (chap.2) If a returning officer knows which way the election was going, he could accidentally lose the ballots on the way to the sheriff. (chap. 2)

9. Observe to see if the sheriff posts instructions cards for the guidance of voters' preparing their ballots. (185).

10. Make notice of any person who pretends to be a poll watcher but actually isn't. One poll watcher for each candidate, the three inspectors, 2 clerks, and returning office, are the only persons allowed in the voting booth five minutes and then must leave. (144) Only those persons that mentioned above are allowed to take the oaths.

11. After the polls close make sure the poll list is sealed in an envelope before the inspectors begin to count the vote. If the poll lists are not in a sealed envelope, the inspectors could possibly break the seals on the ballots and compare the number under the seal with the numbers on the poll and determine how various persons voted. It would then no longer be a secret election.

12. As an inspector reads the ballots and the clerks record the votes for each candidate, make sure the inspector reads the name with the X by it. A crooked inspector could read off the name of the person he desires to win and not the name of the candidate the voter actually voted for. (chap.2)

13. Poll watchers will be given a tally card on which they can count up the voters as the inspector reads the ballots. He should check his tally off.

14. One copy of the certificate of election should be placed on the front of the polling place.

15. A second copy of the certificate of election should be signed by the inspectors and placed in an envelope which should be signed across every fold at which the envelope could possibly be opened. (194). This is

2. The inspector must make sure voters sign their own name to the poll lists and assist those persons that cannot write their own names.

3. The initials or name of one of the inspectors shall be written on the stub attached to the ballot before delivering the ballot to the elector.

4. The voter is an illiterate, the inspector is to assist those persons that cannot write their own name. (175-1)

5. If the voter is an illiterate, the inspector is to call in whoever the voter chooses to have his assist with the voting. (176). He can choose to have whoever he wishes assist him in voting.

6. When the voter casts his ballot, it shall be numbered by the inspector receiving the ballot in the following manner. In the middle of the square the number of the ballot shall be placed (127) Over the square should be placed a seal which will conceal the number but which could later be removed and the number would still be readable. The seal shall not be removed except by grand jury. (180)

7. Having numbered the ballot, the inspectors shall attach the stub and pass the ballot to each of the other inspectors and if must then, without being opened or examined, be deposited in the proper ballot box. (184).

8. When the polls have closed the returning officer or inspector should take the ballots from the box, read them aloud, as the clerks record the number of votes each person receives at the office for which he receives them. (184)

9. A ballot shall not be declared unacceptable because of one unclarity or mistake. A ballot is thrown out only when the whole thing is not understandable. (193)

10. After the ballots are counted the total votes for each candidate must be tallied. The results of the election must be recorded on the certificate of the election and signed by all the inspectors and clerks. The poll lists must also be signed including the day and year the election was held and for what offices. The original copy of the certificate of the election, the poll lists, and the ballots which have been rolled, sealed, and labeled according to the candidates and the number of votes

he received. Are all to be put in a box, fastened with a pad lock and given to the returning agent who, in turn, must deliver the box to the sheriff (194-195)

11. A paper showing the total votes received by each candidate should be attached to the box (194-1)

12. A copy of the certificate of the election should be posted on the front of the voting place.

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14. A second copy of the certificate of elections should be signed by the inspectors and placed in an envelope which should be signed across every fold at which the envelope would possibly be opened. (194) This certificate along with a copy of the poll list should be presented to the probate judge. In case of loss or mutilation of the original certificate the probates copy shall BE ACCEPTED AS THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE ELECTION FOR THAT VOTING PLACE. (139_

15. The original copy of the certificate of the election along with the poll lists and votes must be sealed up in a wood or tin box fastened with locks, and then be given to the returning officer who is to give the tax to the sheriff of the county. The votes are to be rolled up and labeled to show how many votes each candidate received. The rejected ballots are also to be rolled up and placed in the box. (195) There must be present by the returning officer to the sheriff with 48 hours after the election. (197) The sheriff keeps the boxes closed for six months and then takes the packages out of the box and without breaking the seals, destroys them unless such box is legally demanded by grand jury before the six months is up. (196)

16. The statement of votes and the poll list delivered to the returning officer of the precinct must be delivered to the returning officer of the precinct must be delivered to the returning office of the County within 48 hours after the election.

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be opened. (195) This certificate shall be placed with a copy of the

poll list should be presented to the proper judge, in case of

loss or mutilation of the original certificate the proper

copy shall be accepted as the true result of the election for

that voting place. (196)

15. The original copy of the certificate of the election along

with the poll list and votes must be sealed up in a box or

tin box locked with locks, and then be given to the returning

officer who is to give the box to the sheriff of the county.

The votes are to be rolled up and labeled to show how many

votes each candidate received. The rolled ballots are also

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returning officer of the precinct must be delivered to the re-

turning officer of the County within 10 hours after the election.

17. A copy of the certificate of the result of election

shall be delivered to the proper judge as well as to the

original in case the original is lost or destroyed.