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INSTRUCTIONS TO POLL WATCHERS

IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 3, 1966

- 7:30 A.M.
1. You must be at your assigned polling place before ~~8 A.M.~~ on Tuesday morning, May 3, 1966. *can't go in till 8 check Time Poll open.*
 2. Take a pad and several pencils with you. Take a watch and take a large lunch, including a thermos. Prepare yourself as much as possible so that you will not have to leave the polling place.
 3. Immediately upon arriving at the polling place get the names of the three inspectors and the two clerks who are in charge of the voting place.
 4. There should be no one else at the polling place except the three inspectors, the two clerks, watchers for the various candidates, and law officers. If there is anyone else there who you think is not an inspector, clerk, or watcher, notify the inspector in charge and ask that he be asked to leave. Should the inspector refuse to ask him to leave, attempt to find out the identity of the person, and notify your people outside of the transaction.
 5. Count each white voter and each Negro voter.
 6. Be careful to note whether the watchers for white candidates use the telephone, rest rooms, and other facilities at the polling place. Note also whether they receive messages from outside or are allowed to go outside to talk to their people. If you have need to do any of the same things as the white watchers, do so. If you meet resistance, comply with whatever you are told to do (except leave the polling place) and promptly report the incident by whatever means available.
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If you cannot reach anyone on the outside, record names, time, and a description of events on your papers.

7. If you hear any person suggesting or urging any voter to vote for a particular candidate, report it while it is happening to the vote officials and on your own papers record the name of the person suggesting the candidate, the name of the person to whom the name is suggested, and the name of the candidate suggested. Also record the time the incident occurs and what action, if any, is taken by the vote officials. If the person doing the suggesting is a vote official, report him to the other officials and record the information requested above.
8. Under no circumstances should you speak or appear to speak to any Negro voter or other voter, whether you know him or not and whether or not his question is a simple one on a subject having nothing to do with voting. Should a Negro voter come up to you to ask directions or whatever, motion him off with your head or hands and guide him to the vote officials.
9. Under no circumstances should you help anyone make out his ballot.
10. If a person is unable to read, or otherwise mark his ballot, the inspectors must aid him. If they refuse to assist any person in making out his ballot, insist to them that they help the person. If they still refuse, notify your people outside or, if that is impossible, record the time of the incident, the name of the person who could not make out his ballot, and the name or names of the inspectors who refused to help.
11. If a person declares himself unable to read or for some other reason unable to fill out his ballot, make sure

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that the inspector (1) has the person swear to an affidavit stating that he cannot read (2) that two inspectors assist the person in making his ballot and (3) as much as you can determine, that they mark the ballot as directed. (Unfortunately you do not have a right to look at the way the ballot is marked). Be particularly careful that the inspectors do not attempt to persuade the person to vote a particular way. Object if they attempt to rush the man or brow-beat him. Make sure they tell him who is running for each office on the ballot and that the person decides himself whom he wishes to vote for. The inspectors must assist the man in your presence in the voting area.

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12. One inspector will have the duty of challenging voters. He may challenge the right of a person to vote only if the name of the person does not appear on the official list of registered voters. He has no right to challenge a person for failure to pay the poll tax. The poll tax has been declared unconstitutional. If a person is challenged because his name is not on the official list, he must be given an opportunity to make (1) an affidavit swearing that he has registered and is qualified to vote (2) an opportunity to bring in another qualified elector who can swear to the identity of the person. Get the name of any person who is challenged and the reason for the challenge. Notify your people outside about him immediately.
13. when the polls close, STAY THERE. There is not supposed to be a break. The inspectors are required to start counting the ballots immediately. You have a right to inspect the ballots as they are being counted. The total

number of votes tallied by the inspectors should be the same as your private count of the number of Negro and white voters who have gone into the voting booths. If there is a large difference, notify your people immediately. Do not leave until you have seen the ballots all sealed up and given to the returning officer.

14. Make sure that immediately after the vote count the inspectors post in a conspicuous place a certificate showing the total vote for each candidate. Please record the total vote for each candidate as shown on the certificate.