

Do You Want A FAIR Election In Madison County?

Who Is More Able To Do This Than YOU?

Here Are Some Excerpts From the North Carolina State Election Laws:

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DEMAND AT THE POLLING PLACES

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Sec. 164. REGULATIONS FOR OPENING POLLS; OATH OF JUDGES AND REGISTRARS. The judges of election and registrars of each precinct shall meet at the polling places therein at least one-half hour before the time set for opening polls for each election referred to in this article, and shall proceed to arrange the space within the enclosures set apart for election, and to prepare the booths for the orderly and legal conduct of the election. They shall then and there have the official ballot boxes, herein referred to, together with the boxes for ballot stubs and the boxes for spoiled ballots as hereinbefore provided, the sealed packages of official ballots, the registration book, the polling book, and the required supplies. They shall see that the polling booths are supplied with pencils, or pen and ink; unlock the official ballot boxes; see that the same are empty; allow the authorized watchers present and any other electors who may be present to examine said boxes, and shall lock the same again while empty. After such official ballot boxes are relocked they shall not be unlocked or open until the closing of the polls; and except as authorized by law no ballot or other matter shall be placed in such boxes. Each judge of election and registrar shall before the opening of the polls take the following oath:

"I do solemnly swear that I will administer the duties of my office without fear or favor; that I will not in any manner request or seek to persuade or induce any voter to vote for or against any particular candidate or proposition, and that I will not keep or make any memorandum of anything occurring within the voting booth, except I be called upon to testify in a judicial proceeding for a violation of the election laws of this State; so help me, God."

This oath shall be administered at the time hereinbefore prescribed by the registrar to the two judges of election, and by one of them to the registrar. The same oath shall be taken before the registrar by every person rendering assistance. They shall then open the sealed packages of ballots, and one of the judges shall make the proclamation that the polls are open and of the time when they will be closed. From the time of opening of the polls until the announcement of the result of the canvass of the votes after the close of the polls and the signing of the official returns the official ballot boxes and the other boxes herein provided for and all the official ballots herein provided for shall be kept within the precinct election enclosures.

Sec. 84. PROCEEDINGS WHEN POLLS CLOSE; COUNTING OF BALLOTS AFTER A PRIMARY OR AN ELECTION. At the time for closing the polls the Registrar shall announce that the polls are closed, but any qualified electors who are in the process of voting, or are in line within the voting enclosure waiting to vote, shall be allowed to vote before the polls close.

Before the counting of the ballots begins the registrar shall properly instruct all of the ballot counters, clerks and judges on how differently marked ballots shall be counted and tallied. The counting of the ballots in each box shall be made in the presence of the election officials, witnesses and watchers who are present and who may desire to watch same. Provided, that in all primary elections when the counting of the ballots begins after the polls close, one ballot shall be taken at a time from the ballot box by one of the election officials named herein and opened in full view of all of the election officials and witnesses present, and the name of each candidate voted for shall be read aloud distinctly. The vote received by each candidate shall be tallied on the tally sheet. This same procedure for counting the ballots shall apply to all ballot boxes being counted at the same time in a primary election.

No ballot shall be counted which is marked contrary to law, except that no ballot shall be rejected for any technical error unless it is impossible to determine the voter's choice.

The counting of ballots shall be continuous until completed. From the time the ballot box is opened and the count of votes begun, until the votes are counted and the returns made out, signed and certified as herein required, and given to the presiding Judge or Registrar for delivery to the County Board as required herein, the Registrar and Judges of Election in each precinct shall not separate, nor shall a Registrar or Judge leave the polling place except from unavoidable necessity. In case of illness or unavoidable necessity, the Board of Elections may substitute another qualified person for any precinct official so incapacitated.

Sec. 126. HOW PRIMARY CONDUCTED; VOTER'S RIGHTS; POLLING BOOKS; INFORMATION GIVEN; OBSERVATION ALLOWED.

At the time of voting, the name of the voter shall be entered on a primary polling book to be provided and kept for the purpose, under rules prescribed by the State Board of Elections, which said book shall be provided at the expense of the State for all State primaries and State elections and upon said book shall be entered, opposite the name of such voter and in proper column provided for the purpose, the name of the political party whose ticket he shall have voted, and said books shall be filed for safe-keeping until the next election, with the chairman of the County Board of Elections.

Sec. 171. BALLOTS NOT TAKEN FROM POLLS; OTHER BALLOTS FOR SPOILED BALLOTS; DELIVERY TO COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS. No person shall take or remove any ballots from the polling place before the close of the polls. If any voter spoils a ballot, he may successively obtain others, one at a time, not exceeding three in all, upon returning each spoiled one to the registrar, and the registrar shall deposit said spoiled ballot in the box kept for the purpose by him. Within three days after each election or primary the registrar of each precinct shall deliver to the county board of elections in an envelope to be furnished by the county board of elections for such purpose the spoiled ballots so deposited at such precinct, and shall at the same time in another envelope furnished for such purpose, deliver to the said county board of elections the unused ballots from said precinct. The county board of elections shall thereupon make a check to ascertain whether the total of such spoiled ballots and such unused ballots when added to the number of ballots cast at such precinct shall equal the total number of ballots furnished to the registrar of such precinct prior to such election or primary.

Sec. 174. ASSISTANCE TO ILLITERATE OR DISABLED VOTER IN

PRIMARY. Any qualified voter entitled to vote in any primary, but who by reason of any physical disability or illiteracy is unable to mark his ballot may upon statement to the registrar of his incapacity and upon his request be aided by a near relative (husband or wife, brother or sister) parent or child, grandparents or grandchild, who shall be admitted to the booth with such voter, or if no near relative is present such voter may call to his assistance any other voter of his precinct who has not given aid to another voter, and who shall likewise be admitted to the booth with such voter; Provided, that if the voter needs and is entitled to the assistance as herein provided for, and there is no near relative present, or anyone else authorized hereunder to give assistance, the voter may call to his assistance the registrar or one of the judges of election; Provided, further, that any voter may upon his request be accompanied into the voting booth by a near relative (as above defined), and obtain such assistance from said member of the family as he may desire whether disabled or not. It shall be unlawful for any person to give, receive, or permit assistance in the voting booth during any primary to any voter otherwise than as is herein provided for.

Sec. 182. WATCHERS; CHALLENGERS; COUNTIES EXCEPTED.

Each political party or independent candidate named on the ballot may, by a writing signed by the county chairman of such political party, or, as the case may be at all times during election day be in plain view of the precinct officials, judges of election, appoint two watchers, who shall be qualified electors of the precinct for which they are appointed, to attend each polling place. Such watchers shall serve also as challengers; Provided, that no person shall be appointed as a watcher who is not of good moral character; and the judges of election and registrar may for good cause shown reject any appointee and require that another be appointed. Such official watchers shall have the right from the time the polls open until the polls close and the counting is completed to remain within the voting enclosure, and in a position where they may at all times during election day be in plain view of the precinct officials, the voting booths, the ballot boxes and the voting procedure, but shall not in any manner with the election except as the law provides. Provided, that any elector when the name of any elector is called by the judges of election, may exercise the right of challenging the elector's right to vote and when he or she does so then such challenger may enter the election space to make good such challenge and then retire at once when such challenge is heard.

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DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE WITHIN YOUR RIGHTS

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P. R. Elam
FOR
Representative



Ralph Barnes
—FOR—
Clerk of Court



Howard Edwards
—FOR—
Tax Collector



Landon Roberts
FOR
Solicitor



Leon Garrison
FOR
Sheriff



Rex Allen
FOR
Auditor

If You Want More Economical And Efficient County Government, Vote For These Candidates In The May 26 Democratic Primary



Bruce Murray
FOR
Commissioner



Ervin Adams
FOR
Commissioner



Oliver Martin
FOR
Commissioner