

THE COUNTY OF YORK

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Elections Voter Registration STEVE ULRICH, DIRECTOR

ELECTION WATCHER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE GUIDANCE

1. Watchers must be **qualified registered electors of the County of York** pursuant to 25 P.S. § 2650 and *Pa. Democratic Party, et al. v. Kathy Boockvar, et al.*, 133 MM 2020.
2. Any political party or body is entitled to have watchers at any election.
3. Any political party or body is entitled to appoint watchers who are qualified electors to observe polling places.
4. Each candidate for election shall be entitled to appoint two watchers for each election district in which the candidate is running for office. 25 P.S. § 2687.
5. Each political party and each political body which has candidates nominated on the ballot shall be entitled to appoint no more than three watchers for each election district. 25 P.S. § 2687. **But only one watcher shall be present in the polling place at any one time on Election Day.**
6. The number of watchers that may be appointed at any one time shall not be more than three for each party, political body or body of citizens. 25 P.S. § 2650.
7. Watchers must stay outside of the enclosed spaces of polling locations.
8. Each Watcher must obtain official county credentials. Such certificate may be requested from their political party or body or candidate. Such certificate that must state their name and the name of the candidate, party or political body they are representing and they must have the certificate with them at all times when requesting entrance pursuant to the Act.

9. Every candidate shall be entitled to be present in person or by an attorney in fact duly authorized by such candidate. Such candidate or representative is entitled to participate in any proceeding before the York County Board of Elections whenever any matters which may affect their candidacy are being heard.
10. Objections to qualifications of a voter must be raised to the Judge of Elections of the polling location.
11. Poll Watchers MAY NOT engage, attempt to influence or otherwise act in a manner that intimidates voters or otherwise interferes with the orderly process of voting.
12. Poll Watchers must maintain a safe and respectful distance away from any space where voting is occurring and in any event shall always be more than 6 feet away from where voting is taking place.
13. Poll Watchers **SHALL NOT** photograph or videotape voters or the polling location, disseminate false or misleading information to voters, may not question voters, or directly speak to voters, cannot ask voters for documentation.
14. Poll Watchers **SHALL NOT** engage in any electioneering in any polling or voting location.
15. Poll Watchers engaging in any prohibited activities shall be removed from the polling location, voting or canvassing event.
16. **Authorized Representatives of Candidates and Political Parties-** may be present during pre-canvassing and canvassing events but each Candidate and Political Party is only entitled to have ONE individual present in the space where the pre-canvassing or canvassing is being completed.
17. Authorized Representatives may not interfere with, hinder or delay a local board of elections or the York County Board of Elections in the conduct of its duties. If such violation occurs the individual will be prosecuted under the Act.
18. **Poll Watchers and Authorized Representatives have no legal right to observe or be present at the York County Election Office or ballot return sites that are not official poll locations, prior to Election Day, without specific authorization from the York County Board of Elections. Without such specific authorization individuals shall not be permitted in those locations.**