

POLLING LOCATION BASICS

A guide for candidates, campaign workers, news agencies, property managers and community partners. Help protect voter access during Early Voting and on Election Day.



Inside the boundary:

- **No campaigning or solicitation.**
- **Keep the marked area clear for voters and authorized election personnel.**
- **Follow election officials' directions.**
- **No media within this zone.**

**Illustration only. Not to scale.*

The 150-foot distance is measured from the entrance, not the property line. Follow the boundary marked by election officials at each location.

Where the rule applies

Solicitation is prohibited inside the polling place and within 150 feet of the entrance to a polling place, Early Voting site, or Supervisor of Elections office where Vote-by-Mail ballots are requested and printed on demand. The rule also applies within 150 feet of a secure ballot intake station.

Inside the polling location

The rule also covers interior areas accessible or visible to voters. Entry to polling rooms and Early Voting areas during voting hours is restricted by law. Candidates and media do not have general access simply because of their role.

Who marks and maintains the zone?

Supervisor of Elections Officials designates and marks the boundaries before voting begins. Follow the posted markers and directions from election officials. The election board, clerk and election deputy maintain order and protect voter access.

What counts as solicitation?

Solicitation includes asking for a vote, opinion or contribution; handing out political or campaign materials; seeking petition signatures; selling items; and activities intended to influence, or having the effect of influencing, a voter. Campaign signs and political advertisements belong outside the zone.

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Nonpartisan voter assistance

Florida law permits employees and volunteers of the Supervisor of Elections to provide nonpartisan assistance within the zone, including giving items to voters. This exception does not authorize campaign activity.

Can media photograph Inside?

Photography is prohibited in the polling room and Early Voting area. A voter may photograph their own ballot. Refer election-worker interview requests to the Public Information Officer.

Broward Media Guidance

Media representatives should remain outside the designated 150-foot no-solicitation zone unless otherwise authorized or conducting lawful exit polling. Do not interfere with voters entering the polling location or waiting in line. Coordinate media activity with the Broward County Supervisor of Elections Public Information Officer (954)654-1611.

For News Agencies

News agencies must call the Public Information Officer at 954-654-1611 to alert the office to their presence at a voting location. Coordinate all interviews, photography and b-roll through the PIO.

Facility owners and managers

Keep parking areas and accessible spaces available, lighting operational and paths unobstructed. Avoid scheduling activities that limit voter parking or access. Keep entrances, sidewalks and driveways clear. Property owners and managers may not prohibit lawful voter solicitation by candidates or their designees outside the designated no-solicitation zone during polling hours.

Can I hand out food or water?

Campaigns and political organizations should not distribute food, water or other items within the 150-foot no-solicitation zone as part of voter solicitation or campaign activity. Florida law permits authorized nonpartisan assistance by Supervisor of Elections employees and volunteers.

Can I follow a voter into the zone?

No. Do not continue campaign conversations or follow voters across the marked boundary. Respect a voter's decision to decline a conversation. Do not harrass or invade a voter's personal space.

What if there is a disturbance?

For an emergency, call 911 first, then notify the election deputy or clerk. Report blocked access, intimidation or interference with voting to election officials.

Sources and reference

[1] Florida Statutes, section 102.031(1)-(5). Official text: leg.state.fl.us (search 102.031).