



# NEW JERSEY VICTORY

Election Integrity



# **NEW JERSEY** **VICTORY**

The purpose of a poll watcher, sometimes referred to as a challenger, is to promote transparency and fairness in the election process by monitoring who is voting.

Poll watchers work under strict guidelines and represent the organizations that selected them.

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## *Filing of appointment, application for challengers*

- The appointment of or application for challengers shall be filed with the county board not later than the 5<sup>th</sup> day preceding the start of early voting.
- You must be registered to vote in the county in which the district you are challenging at is located.
- Maximum of two (2) challengers per party, per early voting site
- The deadline to file your challenger application for the November 2, 2021 general election is 4:00 pm on **Monday, October 18.**



## **> Early Voting**

**October 23 – 31**

Monday – Saturday  
10am – 8pm

Sunday  
10am – 6pm

**Challengers must apply 5 days  
prior to EV (October 18)**



## *Challenger Do's*

- Listen to the names to voters who present themselves to District Board Workers to vote. If you cannot hear the name called by the poll worker, ask the poll worker to restate the name
- Record the name and address of the voter
- If a challenger knows, suspects, or reasonably believes that a voter is not qualified to vote, the challenger can challenge the voter's right to vote. The challenger must assert the challenge before the vote is cast. The district board must ask the challenger why he or she is challenging the voter.
- Example: A challenger may claim that the voter moved out of state before election day. This would require both the challenger and voter to sign an affidavit.

# *Challenger Do's*

- Display your challenger badge
- Be close enough to hear everything going on without impeding the poll worker or the voter.
- Make sure polling location is opened on time and a poll worker is outside prepared to close the line to anyone attempting to get in line after the close of polls.
- Ensure no electioneering is happening within 100 feet of the polling location entrance. Example: Campaigns or supporters handing out literature, buttons, stickers, or actively campaigning is prohibited.
- Call the Election Integrity Hotline at 555-555-5555 with any concerns.

## *Challenger Dont's*

- Challenge any voter on the basis of race, ethnicity, expected manner of voting, or the location of the voter's actual residence in a housing complex, ward, or other part of town or county.
- Don't sit with the district board workers.
- Don't stand over the district board workers.
- Don't touch any of the election materials.
- Don't go to the voting machines during the voting hours.
- Don't challenge the voter directly.
- Don't participate in the signature comparison process.

# *Challenger Dont's*

- Don't intimidate or cause disturbance in the polling place.
- Don't wear any clothing, button, stickers, hats or other items affiliated with any political party or candidate.
- Don't decline, refuse or neglect to wear the challenger badge or fail to present the challenger credentials to the board upon arrival at the polling place. You have the legal right to be there as long as you are properly credentialed and following guidelines.



## **NJSA 19:34-15 Electioneering within or about polling place**

- If a person shall distribute or display any circular or printed matter or offer any suggestion or solicit any support for any candidate, party or public question within the polling place or within a distance of one hundred feet of the outside entrance to such a polling place or room, he or she shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense
- The distribution of campaign materials such as literature, T- Shirts, buttons, stickers, hats, etc., is strictly prohibited.

# **Reasonable Concerns**

- Electioneering within 100 feet of a polling place.
- Bearer depositing VBM ballots multiple times.
- Bearer depositing more than 3 or 5 VBM ballots, depending on the circumstances.
- District Board worker cannot find voter in Electronic Poll Book.
- Polling location is not opened or closed on time.