



2024 ELECTION DAY POLL GREETER MANUAL

Poll Greeters are stationed outdoors and offer our candidate literature (Democratic sample ballot) to voters as they go in to vote.

Additional responsibilities include:

- Report site issues, including voter intimidation and problems with poll officials to FCDO Headquarters or Voter Protection Team
- Direct voters coming to vote curbside

Preparing for your shift

The first Poll Greeter should pick up the greeter supplies before November 5. The greeter bag and volunteer lanyard will be passed to the next Poll Greeter and so on. The last Poll Greeter of the night will be responsible for returning the volunteer lanyard and any leftover materials to the Headquarters in a timely manner (within a week), and also removing all Democratic yard signs and disposing of them (do not return them to the HQ please).

The FCDP headquarters at 723 Coliseum Drive will be open for you to pick up bags for each of your shifts, along with your volunteer lanyard. Office hours during Election season:

Monday through Saturday, 10am – 6pm; Sunday 1pm – 6pm

What to bring

- Cell phone
- Feel free to show your Democratic Party spirit by wearing true “Blue” colors or a candidate t-shirt.

Consider the weather conditions before the start of your shift as you will be stationed outdoors.

Dressing in layers is helpful in case it warms up or cools down during your shift.

Depending on the weather conditions and temperature, consider bringing:

- Umbrella and rain jacket
- Water and snack
- Sunscreen
- Chair - We ask that you stand when greeting or engaging with voters. The chair may be used for breaks during slow periods.

In-depth explanation of your role

Your job is to make sure that everyone coming to vote is offered the Democratic sample ballot who wants one, and is treated fairly at the polling sites.

Some voters arrive at the polls with very little information about the Democratic candidates. They may not know about the candidates in certain races or even what those offices do - and thus are inclined to skip voting for those races. **Your job is to encourage them to vote the entire ballot, and to vote AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment Referendum.**

Poll Greeters serve three main purposes at polling sites:

- To provide our Democratic sample ballot to voters
- To protect voters' access to voting and report on any issues
- To be a welcoming presence for the Democratic Party at voting sites!

Providing information to voters

Greeters are allowed to be **no closer than 50 feet** from the entrance to a polling site. The election officials will place signs indicating the limit to where you may stand to hand out the sample ballot. You will want to be stationed close by so that you can speak to all voters coming to vote, so position yourself at a visible and comfortable place just outside the 50-foot barrier.

Handing out our literature – the most important job of the Poll Greeter

As a voter approaches you, politely ask, "Would you like the Democratic candidate information?" or something similar. You are offering the information, and the voter may take it, say no, or may walk past without looking at you. If the voter takes the information, you could ask if they have any questions. Be sure to ask them to please vote for all the Democrats on their ballot (because all are important) – it's 2 pages long – and vote no (against) the Referendum, and thank them for voting.

Familiarize yourself with the races on the ballot so that you can offer information if a voter has questions about candidates. **Note:** There is one Referendum on the ballot – a Constitutional Amendment regarding who can vote. The Democratic Party opposes this, so ask voters to vote **NO** on the Referendum at the end of the ballot. It's already Federal and State law that only citizens can vote, and the language is vague; the legislature could have the power to add restrictions.

Curbside Voting

Voters unable to walk into the polling place may ask to vote from their car. There will be signage posted for curbside voting. Curbside voting may be within the 50-foot zone. You may approach a curbside voter to offer our Democratic literature only *before* an election official arrives. Once an election official comes out with a ballot to assist the voter, the vehicle becomes the voter's "voting enclosure" and it's off limits to Greeters.

If you notice that a car is parked at curbside voting for several minutes and an election official has not come out, you could go in to let them know that someone is waiting vote curbside – first setting down your literature and removing your volunteer lanyard, so that you are not breaking the "50 foot" rule.

Protecting voters' access

You are the eyes on the parking lot and outdoors area for voters coming to vote at your polling site. Keep an eye out for:

- Accessibility issues, particularly for anyone in a wheelchair
- Especially long lines, where voters' patience may be thin

- Voter intimidation
- Disgruntled voters leaving the site (if possible, ask them about any problems they may have had; offer assistance if feasible)
- Voters in line towards the end of the day. Any voter in line at 7:30pm must be allowed to vote.

Problem-solving at your site

Reporting of issues

If you witness anything that seems out of the ordinary or troublesome:

- Handle the issue on-site if you can. **If the Chief Judge** at your polling site needs to know about it, wait until an election official comes outside and ask to speak to the Chief Judge.
- **If an issue is deemed immediate**, report the situation to the Headquarters.
- Depending on the issue, you may go straight to:
 - **NC Democratic Party Voter Protection Hotline**: Number to be determined
 - Law enforcement, see below

Immediate issues are time-sensitive and require Headquarters to know about them on the spot and possibly require our Hotline to get involved right away.

Non-immediate issues are issues that Headquarters or the Hotline can do little to impact right away or are issues that the Chief Judge is working to resolve.

Sometimes, the decision on when to notify Headquarters on the spot versus waiting until the end of your shift is subjective. When in doubt, contact Headquarters.

Law enforcement jurisdiction by polling site varies. For an **EMERGENCY** situation at ANY polling site, **call 911**. For all non-emergency issues, contact the specific agency with jurisdiction over your site.

Clemmons, Lewisville, Rural Hall, Walkertown sites	Forsyth County Sheriff's Department	(336) 727-2112
Kernersville sites	Kernersville Police Department	(336) 996-3117
All other polling sites	Winston-Salem Police Department	(336) 773-7700

Problems to watch for

Common issues

- Greeters going inside the 50-foot area (past the No Electioneering sign)
- Lines (long waits)
- Broken equipment/insufficient ballots
- Parking problems
- Voter at wrong precinct

Uncommon issues

- Aggressive or intimidating Republican Greeters or bystanders
- Rude or obnoxious voters
- Voter is turned away without a provisional ballot
- Firearms (very rare) Firearms are NOT allowed at any polling sites on government property. As well, most churches have similar ordinances.

De-escalation techniques

- Don't engage, defend or respond; walk away
- Avoid back-and-forth exchanges
- Don't try to persuade
- Contact the Headquarters Team, the Voter Protection Hotline or law enforcement for support