

## **Georgia Poll Watcher Handout**

**Election Day Legal Hotline: 404-738-8393**

**Election Reporting Link: [Georgia.ProtectTheVote.com](https://Georgia.ProtectTheVote.com)**

### **POLL WATCHER CHECKLIST**

- The polling place was open on time.
- Watchers were given ample access to observe opening procedures.
- Opening procedures were followed and all machines printed a zero-count tape.
- There were no electioneering incidents during my shift.
- There were no unusual delays in voting during my shift.
- Voting machines and poll books operated without issue.
- All voters required by law to cast a provisional ballot were directed to do so.
- Workers handled all provisional ballots and mail ballot drop offs in accordance with state law.
- Only those in line at the time of closing were allowed to vote after polls closed.
- Watchers were given ample access to observe closing procedures.
- Closing procedures were followed.
- The machine counts match the number of voters who checked in the poll book.  
If the numbers do not match, politely ask the poll manager for an explanation.

### **POLL WATCHER PRINCIPLES**

1. Cordially introduce yourself to the precinct manager when you arrive.
2. Be respectful and courteous to voters and election officials.
3. Follow instructions provided by election officials.
4. Do not interact with voters or the media.
5. Do not disrupt, obstruct, or interfere with the voting process.
6. Follow your training and the applicable laws for observers.
7. Direct any questions to appropriate election staff in a professional manner.
8. Carry required volunteer credentials or ID during entire shift.
9. Arrive on time and take notes.
10. Contact the hotline immediately if you have questions, are in doubt about how to approach an issue, or if you witness any potential election law violations.

**ISSUES TO MONITOR**

- Lack of meaningful access
- Electioneering within solicitation zone
- Machine or poll book malfunctions, power outages
- Intimidation, suppression, or violence
- Election worker failure to follow official procedures / laws
- Violation of poll worker parity
- Shortage of ballots
- Improper voter assistance
- Long lines
- Problems with opening or closing of polling place
- People voting past closure (except those in line at time polls closed)
- Voter eligibility in question or showing up to wrong precinct
- *Voter ID not being checked*
- Ensure at start of day: tabulators are set at "000" before counting begins
- Ensure at end of day: all ballot bags/boxes and other election materials are properly sealed/signed and prepared for transfer to appropriate location

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