



POLLWATCHERS

The Pollwatcher Guide is designed to familiarize Pollwatchers with relevant election laws and define their responsibilities and limitations. On occasion, pollwatchers untrained in election laws and procedures misinterpret perfectly legal activities or procedures as apparent irregularities. This situation frequently leads to unnecessary confrontations between Pollwatchers and Election Judges, unfounded complaints directed to the Election Authority or Law Enforcement Officials, and temporary disruption of the voting process. At the same time, untrained pollwatchers are often unaware that an activity or procedure they are observing is an election law violation.

The integrity of elections is a concern of the Kendall County Clerk and all citizens. Although Pollwatchers may represent particular candidates, political parties or civic organizations, their principal interest is in the conduct of a fair and honest election. The Pollwatcher Guide is a general overview intended to help understand the basic responsibilities of the Pollwatchers. For authoritative guidance, refer to the Election Code and the uniform instructional manual for Judges of Election, issued by the State Board of Elections.

Pollwatchers are not permitted to wear or display campaign information, or distribute political material or discuss political/referenda views within the 100 foot Campaign Free Zone.

Pollwatchers shall not be permitted to station themselves in such close proximity to the Judges of Election so as to interfere with the orderly conduct of the election and shall not, in any event, be permitted to handle election materials