



**CITIZENS AGAINST VOTER FRAUD & ILLINOIS FREEDOM ALLIANCE
POLL WATCHERS TRAINING GUIDE
PART 3 – What to watch for as a Poll Watcher.**



What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?



Vote Buying - 10 ILCS 5/29--1

- Don't expect to see people in a polling place with a wad of cash with an offer to buy a vote. They are more subtle than that.
- Just because it unlikely to happen doesn't mean it won't happen. Times have changed. Be on the look out for people offering debit cards.
- Watch for people huddling in out of the way places.

Promise For Vote - 10 ILCS 5/29-2

- This is another crime likely to happen away from the polling place. Be aware that it exists.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.

Selling of Vote -10 ILCS 5/29-3

This may be something that people will joke about when they are waiting to vote. It's all fun and games until it becomes a felony.

Prevention of Voting or Candidate Support - 10 ILCS 5/29-4

People outside of the 100 foot electioneering Parmenter blocking people from entering the polling place.

You may also see someone blocking the path to the polling place in order to ask the voter how they are going to vote.

Refer it to an election judge in a challenge.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Voting More Than Once - 10 ILCS 5/29-5

"Weren't you in here this morning?"

There is a reason why poll watchers are chosen from their precinct.



Mutilation of Election Materials - 10 ILCS 5/29-6

No ballot is thrown away in the polling place. Even if it is mangled, spat on, or used to wrap used gum it is accounted for and packed up to be sent to the central counting facility at the end of the day.

Rule of thumb: Anything a poll watcher is not allowed to touch is not thrown away.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Watch the Voting Machines — 10 ILCS 5/29-7

For anything other than a simple paper jam, make sure that the election judges call the county clerk or the local board of elections for assistance. Election judges are not there to fix voting machines. Report it to your poll watching team. Keep your poll watching team informed of the outcome.

Ballot Box Stuffing— 10 ILCS 5/29-8

The voter returns the exact same number of ballots to the ballot box/tabulator as the election judge handed the voter.

- This is also why a poll watcher at the Central Counting Facility is concerned about: The vote count in the morning matches the vote count from the night before.
- Every ballot enters the central county facility in a sealed envelope or container.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Unlawful Observation Of Voting - 10 ILCS 5/29-9

This is why the poll watcher positions themselves far enough away from voting booths that the poll watcher cannot see how the ballot is being marked.

And why, if a poll watcher does have to go into the voting booth area (accompanied, of course, by two election judges; one from either party) that the poll watcher does their best to place themselves where the poll watcher cannot see ballots being marked.

Note that not only prohibits someone from observing a ballot being marked but also prohibits the voter making a his/her ballot available to be observed.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.

Perjury - 10 ILCS 5/29-10

Everyone makes mistakes. Anyone can get flummoxed answering questions in the excitement of voting day.

BUT, if the voter is claiming to be a 96 year-old, World War Two veteran and looks not a day over 35, the election judges may want further discussions.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Failure To Comply with Order of Election Authority

10 ILCS 5/29-11

For the poll watcher, the key phrase here is "lawful order".

EXAMPLE -1 : A poll watcher can be told not to discuss politics within the polling place. That is a lawful order.

A poll watcher cannot be told that they must remain silent whenever they are in the polling place. **BUT REMEMBER – do not disturb the voting process.**

EXAMPLE -2 :An election official orders an individual poll watcher to leave the polling place, but did not follow the procedure in 10 ILCS 5/17-23. That is an unlawful order.

NOTE: If there is an issue - Leave the polling room. Contact your poll watcher team to determine what is a lawful and an unlawful order.





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Disregard of Election Code-10 ILCS 5/29-12

Election judges and election officials don't get to make up rules as they go along. ... like, say, when a vote by mail ballot is surrendered at a polling place, writing "SURRENDERED" on the security envelope instead of writing "SPOILED" on the ballot as instructed in 10 ILCS 7/7-11 OR, telling poll watchers that they cannot talk. OR, telling poll watchers to sit in another room. Intentionally Blocking your view....etc, etc..

Attempt, Solicitation and Conspiracy - 10 ILCS 5/29-13

When two or more people get together to violate the election rules. If you are aware of any actions where people are planning to do nefarious things to subvert a rule or a voters right. Report it to an Election Judge.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Conviction Deemed Infamous - 10 ILCS 5/29-15

You're not going to see a lot of this in poll watching as this issue should be handled by the election jurisdiction. BUT if you see a person listed on the ballot that has been convicted of an infamous crime, challenge this to any election judge to be investigated.



Contempt — Removal From Office — 10 ILCS 5/29-16

Hopefully the poll watcher is not going to see this in the polling place, but it's still good to know. If an Election Judge who commits any act prohibited or fails to do any act that is required can be removed as an Election Judge .

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



Deprivation of Constitutional Rights – Liability - 10 ILCS 5/29-17

No one can deny you your rights under the constitution or any laws of the governing elections. This covers many things from freedom of speech, to exercising your rights as a Poll Watcher.



Conspiracy To Prevent Vote — Liability - 10 ILCS 5/29-18

This is why our poll watcher is asked to report every challenge. .

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?...cont.



False Information — Liability - 10 ILCS 5/29-19

Not strictly a concern of the poll watcher, but a person can sue an imposter who is trying to steal their identity to vote .



These are some of the violations a Poll Watcher should be aware of, and on the look out for at all times.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING





What Is A Poll Watcher Watching For?....

SUMMARY

- There are many laws governing our elections that you need to be aware of. Familiarize your self with the laws so you can question something you see out of place.
- The Election Judges may not know all the laws.
- Have handy a copy of the laws that you can refer to when a need arises. You can keep it in your car, if need be.
- Don't be afraid to speak up. The Election Judges can be your friend and help make sure the laws are not violated.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



POLL WATCHERS WANTED



QUALIFICATIONS

A pollwatcher must be registered to vote in the state of Illinois and must be affiliated with the party, organization, or candidate he/she is representing.

CITIZENS AGAINST VOTER FRAUD SPECIFIC RIGHTS OF POLLWATCHERS:

POLLWATCHERS

- Dress as a person of authority!
- Establish a cooperative relationship with the judges.
- Be aware of possible election irregularities and the various methods of vote fraud to enable them to distinguish such activity from proper voting procedures.
- Become familiar with the procedures outlined in the manuals of instruction for election judges published by the State Board of Elections.



WHO AUTHORIZES AN INDIVIDUAL TO BECOME A POLLWATCHER?

Each pollwatcher must have credentials issued by the election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners) or by the Illinois State Board of Elections.

These credentials must be presented by the pollwatcher to the election judges immediately upon entering the polling place.

- Before the first ballot is cast, pollwatchers may observe that the ballot box is empty.
- Pollwatchers may position themselves near enough to the election judges to examine the applications for ballot.
- Pollwatchers may observe as the judges compare the voter application with the signature on the registration records.
- Pollwatchers may watch as the judges initial and distribute the ballots to voters, and as the ballots are deposited into the ballot box after the voter has voted.
- Pollwatchers may challenge a person's right to vote. A reason for the challenge must be stated. (Possible reasons include the person voted earlier in the day, the person moved, or the person lacks qualifications).
- The Judges of election determine whether or not to sustain a challenge.
- Pollwatchers may observe the counting procedures after the polls close and at the central counting locations.

CITIZENS AGAINST VOTER FRAUD

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