



District of Columbia Board of Elections

GUIDELINES FOR THE MEDIA

The D.C. Board of Elections (DCBOE) provides the following guidelines for orderly conduct during the December 4, 2018 General Election to protect the rights of all participants in the voting process.

GUIDELINES FOR COVERING ACTIVITY AT THE POLLS

- When you arrive at a polling place, contact the Precinct Captain - they are in charge of the polling place, and must keep a record of all visitors. Please show your media credentials to the Precinct Captain as you enter the polling place.
- Although you may take pictures in the polling place during voting hours, you may not compromise the privacy of voters' ballots. Photographs and camera footage should be taken with a wide-angle lens, and should not capture the ballot or any of the voters' selections.
- DCBOE asks that you ensure that the intended subject of any proposed photograph has agreed to have their picture taken.
- Do not talk to any voter who is in the process of checking-in or casting a ballot. During other times, you may converse with voters inside the polling place, but you may NOT:
 - Wear any campaign buttons, stickers, or insignia;
 - Hand out any campaign literature;
 - Support or discourage support of any candidate or measure on the ballot;
 - Impede the voting process or obstruct the polling place staff; or
 - Compromise the privacy of a voter's ballot.
- You are permitted inside the polling place for media coverage only. Please leave promptly once your work is complete.

GUIDELINES FOR EXIT POLLING

- Question only those individuals leaving the polling place.
- Be sure to tell people that responding to questions is purely voluntary.
- Do not interfere in any way with access to the polling place.
- Do not position yourself within a 50-foot radius of the polling place entrance unless you have written permission to be closer from DCBOE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact **Rachel Coll**, Public Information Officer, DCBOE, at:

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