



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



BOARD OF ELECTIONS:

Josh Maxwell, Chair
Marian D. Moskowitz, Vice Chair
Michelle Kichline, Commissioner

CHESTER COUNTY VOTER SERVICES

Government Services Center
601 Westtown Road, Suite 150
P.O. Box 2747
West Chester, PA 19380-0990
(610) 344-6410 FAX: (610) 344-5682

Karen Barsoum
Director

Drop Box Observer Rules and Regulations

1. Observers are at the drop boxes to watch, they are NOT to disturb voters or Voter Services employees, nor to disrupt the drop box process.
2. Any activity that threatens, harasses, or intimidates voters at a drop box is illegal. This includes any activity intended to, or having the effect of, interfering with any voter's right to vote.
3. Observers shall not interfere with, distract, or disrupt any individuals who are dropping off ballots, the Voter Services employees staffing the drop boxes, or the Park Rangers collecting ballots.
4. Observers must remain at least ten (10) feet from the drop boxes.
5. Observers shall not be physically positioned in any way that would interfere with individuals dropping off ballots, the Voter Services employees staffing the drop boxes, or the Park Rangers collecting ballots.
6. Observers shall not be positioned in any way that blocks or interferes with traffic.
7. If Observers are positioned in a way that violates these guidelines or is unsafe, they may be asked to move.
8. It is illegal for any person or corporation to directly or indirectly practice intimidation or coercion to induce or compel a person to vote or refrain from voting for a particular candidate or on a particular political issue through:
 - use of force;
 - violence;
 - restraint;
 - infliction of injury, damage, harm, or loss; or
 - threatened infliction of injury, damage, harm, or loss.
9. The following are examples of voter intimidation:
 - Aggressive or threatening behavior inside or outside the drop box area.
 - Blocking or interfering with access to the drop box.
 - Direct confrontation or questioning of voters, including asking voters for documentation or proof of eligibility when none is required.
 - Disseminating false or misleading election information, including information on voting eligibility, drop box procedures, or drop box hours.
 - Aggressive or threatening brandishing of weapons.
 - Photographing or videotaping voters in order to intimidate them.
 - Posting signs at a drop box to intimidate voters or drive support for a candidate.
 - Questioning voters about citizenship, criminal record, or political choices.
 - Using raised voices, screaming, yelling, or shouting; use of insulting, offensive, or threatening language; chanting taunts; or threatening songs inside the polling place.
 - Vandalism of drop boxes.
 - Verbal or physical confrontation of voters by persons dressed in official-looking uniforms.
 - Falsely representing oneself as an election official or law enforcement authority.
 - Violence or using the threat of violence to interfere with a person's right to vote.
 - Interfering with or violating a voter's right to a secret ballot at any point in the process.
10. Individuals who witness voter intimidation or who are victims of voter intimidation should immediately report it to law enforcement. Voters should also report such instances to Voter Services at (610) 344-6410, as well as to the Department of State at 1-877-VOTESPA (1-877-868-3772).