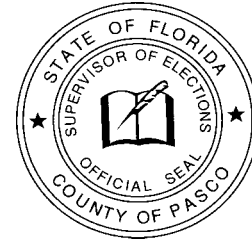


OTE NOTES

KURT S. BROWNING

PASCO COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



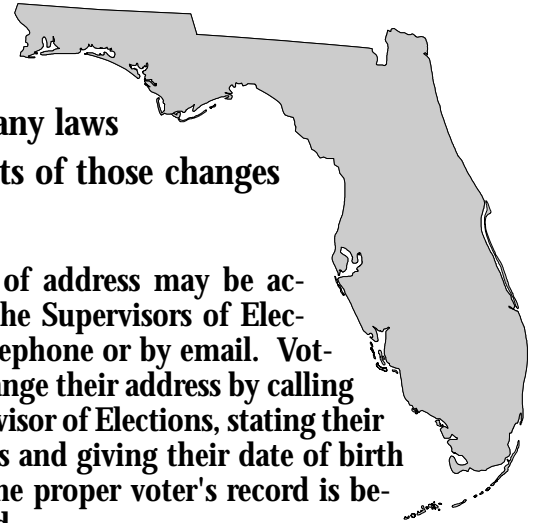
July, 2002

Quarterly Publication

Something New In 2002!

The 2002 Florida Legislative session created or corrected many laws relating to election reform in Florida. Some of the highlights of those changes are as follows:

- Reduces the required hours of training for clerks from six hours to three hours prior to each election. As well, the hours were reduced for inspectors for training. However, even with these changes, pollworkers will be attending longer training sessions because the law now requires conflict resolution training and etiquette and sensitivity training with respect to voters with a disability...as well as necessary training for the task you have been assigned.
- Removes the requirement for an actual voting unit at the polling place for demonstration purposes. However, Pasco will use an actual iVotronic at each polling place to ensure our voters are prepared to accurately cast their ballots.
- Revises the Voter's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities. These posters have been reworded to better explain to voters their rights at the polling place, as well as their responsibilities when coming to the polls to vote.
- Provides that the voter registration application can be copied and used as an original voter registration application. This was a part of House Bill 493, which was sponsored by Representative Heather Fiorentino at the request of the Florida Supervisors of Elections.
- Changes of address may be accepted by the Supervisors of Elections by telephone or by email. Voters may change their address by calling their Supervisor of Elections, stating their new address and giving their date of birth to ensure the proper voter's record is being changed.
- Requires the Supervisors of Elections to notify voters of the method of updating their signature any time the Supervisor of Elections sends information to voters, excluding postcard notifications. The voter must be advised where, when, and how to update their signature. The supervisor is also required to publish a notice before each general election specifying the procedure to update one's signature.
- Requires the Supervisors of Elections to survey each polling place by 9/1/03 to determine accessibility of the polling place for those persons with disabilities. Beginning July 1, 2004, no polling place may be used if it is found not to meet the rigid standards specified in the code. There will be a number of facilities that will need to have improvements made in order for them to be used as a polling place.



Although these law changes have been made with the desire to ensure an open and accessible elections process, it is very important that all voters be prepared on election day for change. Know the location of your polling place, be informed about your choices and learn how our new voting system works.

A well prepared, well-informed voter will be able to make the most of their election day. ■

Around the State

The state's Supervisors of Elections' offices were well represented at the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections Summer Conference in June. Brevard County hosted the semiannual event held in Cocoa Beach.

The conference gave the election officials the opportunity to learn from one another and consolidate their efforts in a joint mission to produce "smooth" statewide elections this fall.

Election officials and their staff attended daily meetings facilitated by the Division of Elections. The meetings were designed to educate them on impending law changes that will affect the way supervisors will conduct elections this year. Other meetings and workshops held at the conference concentrated on implementing newly acquired voting technologies, reapportionment deadlines and absentee voting.


See the legislative review on the front page for an in-depth look at the changes to election laws affecting our state. ■

Preparation is Key

In an effort to better prepare Pasco County voters, the Supervisor of Elections will be mailing sample ballots for the upcoming elections. Every registered voter in Pasco County will receive a "voter specific" sample ballot approximately two weeks prior to each election.

The intent of the mailing is to acquaint each voter with the ballot they will be voting at the polls. It is the hope of Mr. Browning that the mail-out will promote voter awareness and increase efficiency at the polls. Voters are encouraged to mark their sample ballot and bring it to the polls to expedite the voting process.

Voters should look for the September Primary's sample ballot in late August. ■



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF


PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA BOB WHITE, SHERIFF


To the Citizens of Pasco County

Ladies and Gentlemen:


Voting is one of the basic rights for which our country was founded, and it continues to be the bedrock of our unique democracy. Ensuring that all eligible citizens who choose to exercise their right to vote have unobstructed access to the polls is an important function of a poll deputy. I hope you take great pride in this brief, but ever-so-important duty. Our citizenry will be counting on us to maintain peace and order at the polls to assist in the voting process.

I also need your help in increasing our pool of persons available to be assigned as poll deputies. It is important that we have people in reserve to assure that there will be full coverage for the upcoming election. Please contact Mr. Browning's office for more details. Your consideration to serve as special deputy sheriff at the polls will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

R. L. White
Sheriff



8700 Citizen Drive • New Port Richey, FL 34654 • (727) 847-5878
37312 Howard Avenue • Dade City, FL 33525 • (352) 521-5100
20101 Central Boulevard • Land O'Lakes, FL 34639 • (813) 996-6982



Annual High School Voter Registration Contest

Kurt S. Browning, Supervisor of Elections, presented the 2002 High School Voter Registration Contest plaque to the students of River Ridge High School.

River Ridge High School came out on top by taking voter registrations from nearly half of their eligible students. Pasco High School came in second with a 41.7 percent turnout. Log on to www.pascovotes.com/pashigh.htm for the complete contest results. ■



Area high schools participated in the Annual High School Voter Registration Contest this past April. Volunteers for the Supervisor of Elections office were on hand to demonstrate the new iVotronic voting system to future voters.

ATTENTION: Pollworkers...

This week many of you will be receiving pollworker confirmation cards in the mail. These cards will indicate your assignment to work in a specific precinct or as an alternate. You may or may not be assigned to the precinct where you previously worked. Since re-districting, many precinct lines have been moved, new precincts formed and some polling place locations have changed. There is no practical way to reassign everyone to the precinct where they last worked. Where possible, you have been assigned to work in your home precinct or one close by. As in the past, criteria for selection is date of application, work history, and party affiliation.

Please be sure to return the bottom half of your confirmation card promptly. If we do not hear from you by August 9, 2002, you will be replaced by a qualified alternate. ■

Voter Identification A New Look...

All registered Pasco County voters can expect new voter identification cards to be in their mailboxes in early August. Electors need to be aware that the ID cards will be in a completely different format. Voters should look for an 8 1/2 " x 11" self-mailer with a "punch-out" voter ID card at the bottom of the letter.

The letter will include information on how to contact the Supervisor of Elections office, important voter information and an illustration of how to use the iVotronic voting equipment.

The voter ID cards will include the voter's registration data as well as their Congressional, Senate, and House Districts; their Board of County Commission and School Board Districts; and the name and address of their polling place.

The voter card is a form of signature identification that can be used at the polls but voters should remember that they are also required to produce photo identification as well. ■

REDISTRICTING Now Complete...

The Supervisor of Elections office has completed the redistricting process, which includes the re-precincting of the county. Kurt Browning appeared before the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, July 9, 2002, for approval of the new precinct boundaries.

Once the board approved the lines, the elections office began populating the new precincts with their respective voters. The new precincts were built around new Congressional, Senate, and House District boundaries as well as special district areas and voter population.

Pasco County will now have Congressional Districts 5 and 9; Senate Districts 10, 11, and 12; House of Representative Districts 44, 45, 46, 48, 61, and 62. Taking into account new Board of County Commission Districts, School Board Districts and Mosquito Control Districts, this process increased Pasco County's voting districts from 132 to 151 precincts.

All registered voters in Pasco County will receive their voting district information on their new voter identification cards. The new voter ID cards are expected to be mailed to each voter in early August. ■

Voter Awareness Promoted...

The advertising firm hired by Pasco County Supervisor of Elections to educate voters is launching several county-wide campaigns in August.

Residents will have the opportunity to view a fifteen minute public service announcement video on local cable television channels beginning August 1, 2002. The informative video will feature Supervisor of Elections Kurt S. Browning.

The video will illustrate polling place setup with pollworkers, and show what it will be like for electors to vote at the polls. The video also uses different scenarios to

demonstrate how easy it is to use the new voting equipment.

The elections office will also utilize billboards in six different locations throughout the county. The billboards will be used to post dates to remember and voter information. The same type of information, as well as still shots from the PSA video, will be shown in local theatres before movie presentations.

Another informational campaign will use the Next Generation Network (NGN) available in local convenience stores. The NGN program will be an animated advertisement depicting election dates, registration information, and elections office hours and locations.

The elections office plans to include local radio stations, television stations and newspapers in the campaign as well. They will be used to provide similar information in the form of public service announcements and advertisements. ■

Candidate Qualifying

The candidate-qualifying period for the fall elections ended last week. Any person aspiring to run for office this year filed their qualifying papers with the Supervisor of Elections between Noon, July 22, 2002, and Noon, July 26, 2002.

Local offices up for election this year are Board of County Commissioners Districts 2 and 4; School Board Districts 1, 3, and 5; and Mosquito Control Commissioner, Seat 2. Other special district seats up for consideration include Lake Bernadette Community Development District, Meadow Pointe Community Development District, Meadow Pointe II Community Development District, and Northwood Community Development District.

Check out our website, pascovotes.com, for more information about this year's candidates as well as their contributions and expenditures. ■

iVotronic Demonstrations...

The Supervisor of Elections office is determined to reach the registered voters of Pasco County. It is our goal to give each voter the opportunity to learn how to use the new voting equipment before election day.

To date, the elections office has held over 350 demonstrations. Approximately 18,000 residents have attended the demonstrations and will be prepared to vote at the polls in September.

In order to provide a positive experience at the polls, we encourage all residents to attend a demonstration before election day. There is a detailed list of touchscreen voting demonstrations available at pascovotes.com. Demonstrations are also available during office hours at all three Supervisor of Elections locations. Pertinent voter information and registration applications are available at all touch screen voting demonstrations. ■

Registration Drives Coming Soon...

Voter registration drives are coming to an area near you. All Pasco County residents wishing to register to vote or make a change to their registration record are encouraged to fill out a voter registration application at any of the registration drives held throughout the county.

The book closing deadline for the September 10th, Primary Election, is August 12, 2002. Any resident wishing to vote in the September election is required to be registered to vote by the book closing deadline.

In an effort to make registration more accessible and convenient, the elections office will have representatives at several locations on August 10, 2002, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Some of the locations include the public libraries, Gulf View Square Mall, multiple Wal-mart and K-mart locations.

Log onto pascovotes.com for a detailed listing of voter registration drives and iVotronic equipment demonstrations near you. ■

NEW OFFICE HOURS

The Supervisor of Elections office will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning August 13, 2002. The expanded office hours will be in effect through the General Election on November 5, 2002. All services will be available during these hours. Normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., will be observed Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In addition the offices will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the two Saturdays immediately prior to the September 10th, Primary Election, and the two Saturdays immediately prior to the November 5th, General Election. These expanded office hours are available for those who wish to vote an absentee ballot or make changes to their voter registration. ■

TUNE-IN

Catch Pasco County Supervisor Kurt S. Browning on WEDU's Tampa Bay Week. The show will air Friday, August 30, 2002, at 9:00 p.m. with a repeat broadcast on Sunday, September 1, 2002, at 10:30 a.m. Other Supervisors of Elections from the Tampa Bay area will join Mr. Browning on the public affairs program hosted by Rob Lorei. The panel will discuss the 2000 elections and the election reform laws passed by the Florida Legislature. The program will be an informative look into the 2002 election cycle and the new regulations that will govern the process. ■

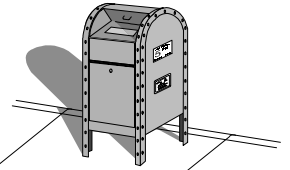
Calendar of Events

- August 12th** **Voter Registration Books Close**
The books close for the September 10, 2002 Primary Election
- August 12th** **In-office Absentee Voting Available**
All offices
- September 10th** **Primary Election**
Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m
- October 7th** **Voter Registration Books Close**
The books close for the November 5, 2002, General Election
- September 30th** **In-office Absentee Voting Available**
All offices
- November 5th** **General Election**
Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m

DID YOU KNOW?

- Wyoming was the first state to allow women to vote.
- Saint Augustine, Florida is the oldest city in the United States.

SOURCE: www.corsinet.com/trivia



Do you know anyone who would like to be put on our mailing list? Please let us know so they can start receiving VOTENOTES.

Quote of the Quarter...

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good; 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm."

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

For more information, visit our website at www.pascovotes.com.

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Republican	92,489	40.4%
Democrat	89,432	39.0%
Other	47,135	20.6%
Total	229,056	

(As of July 23, 2002)

ELECTION DATES

Primary Election September 10, 2002

General Election November 5, 2002

KURT S. BROWNING
Supervisor of Elections
Pasco County
P. O. Box 300
Dade City, FL 33526-0300

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