



Meloni Wray, Director
Edward R. Dzioba, Democrat Secretary
Brian J. Gatchel, Republican Member

Zeda B. Trice, Democrat Chair
Ronnie D. Lovick, Democrat Member
Matthew P. Schwob, Republican Member

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROLE OF OBSERVERS/RUNNERS for all Craven County Elections

After reviewing the N.C. General Statutes Chapter 163A and the North Carolina State Board of Elections Memorandums, etc. in regard to observers of elections, the following conclusions have been reached:

1. Observers are allowed in all elections except non-partisan municipal elections.
2. Observers and runners do not take an oath, therefore they are not sworn officers and they are not election officials. They are designated political party officials or unaffiliated candidate campaign designees or proponents/opponents for an alcoholic beverage election, operating under the N. C. Election Laws.
3. Observers and runners are not allowed to be or serve as a precinct official or one-stop election official in that primary or election.
4. Observers and runners are not allowed to be candidates that are on the ballot for any election.
5. Observers and runners must be registered voters of the county for which they are appointed and must have good moral character in all elections.
6. Observers appointed in an alcoholic beverage election must be registered voters of the precinct for which appointed.
7. Observers and runners must have been appointed by the chair of each political party in the county or unaffiliated candidate or unaffiliated candidate's campaign manager by submitting **in writing a signed list** containing the names of the observers and runners appointed for each precinct and received by 10:00 am on the fifth day prior to a primary or general election.
8. Observers are allowed for One-Stop sites during elections, when applicable. The appointee signed list must be received by 10:00 am on the fifth day before the observer is to observe during the One-Stop designated period.
9. At-large observer lists may be amended between the One-Stop period and the general election day to substitute one or all at-large observers for an election.
10. Party chairs are allowed to be an observer except during a primary, unless that party is participating in the primary.
11. Observers in an alcoholic beverage election must have been appointed by the proponents and opponents of the referendum by submitting three days before the alcoholic election in writing a signed list of the observers for each precinct.
12. Observers and runners may for good cause be rejected by the County Board Chair or the Chief Judges, judges or one-stop supervisors for each affected precinct or one-stop site and require that another be appointed. The replaced appointee's name has to be furnished in writing no later than the time for the opening time at the voting place.
13. Only one voter list at designated times (2:00 p.m.) is to be provided to each political party either to an observer or a runner if the precinct is able to print.

Observers:

1. Only two (2) observers from each political party, unaffiliated candidate campaign, and alcoholic referendum committee maybe designated for a voting place and no more than 2 can be from the same party. Exception, when there is an at-large appointed observer present in the voting enclosure. Alcoholic elections observers must be registered in precinct observing.
2. Ten (10) additional at-large observers maybe designated by each political party in the county, who are residents of the county and may attend any voting place in the county.
3. The primary purpose of observers is to view the election process as the eyes and ears of their particular political party or alcoholic referendum committee, to observe, and take notes, including collecting at designated times lists of voters who have cast ballots.
4. By tradition and interpretation of the law, the observers are allowed to collect names of those who have voted. If observers have wireless devices, these can be used for collecting

names/notes inside the voting enclosure, communication outside of the voting enclosure or at a designated location determined by the Craven County BOE.

5. Curbside Observers: The observer is entitled to stand outside the motor vehicle of the curbside voter; however, they shall be far enough away from the motor vehicle to not interfere with the voting process of the passengers in the motor vehicle or able to view how the curbside voter is actually voting.
6. Wireless devices: Use of all handheld electronic devices is prohibited for vocal communication and photography (to film, record or take pictures) inside the voting enclosure. Exception: an observer who wishes to record the image of a specific voter shall obtain the consent of both the voter and the chief judge or one-stop supervisor; an observer who wishes to record the image of a candidate in the voting enclosure need only obtain the consent of the candidate.
7. "An observer shall do no electioneering at the voting place, and he/she shall in no manner impede the voting process or interfere or communicate with or observe any voter in casting his ballot, but, subject to these restrictions, the chief judge, one-stop supervisor and judges of election shall permit him to make such observation and take such notes as he/she may desire." G.S. 163A-821
8. Observers, who are registered voters in the county, may challenge another voter in the voting enclosure in which he/she is observing. Challenges must be for one of more of the following reasons: (See G.S. §163A-911 for more detail)
 - Person is not a resident of the State of NC
 - Person is not a resident of the county in which the person is registered
 - Person is not a resident of the precinct in which the person is registered
 - Person is not 18 years of age
 - Person has been adjudged guilty of a felony and is ineligible to vote
 - Person is dead
 - Person is not a citizen of the US
 - In respect to voting in a municipal election, person is not a resident of the municipality in which the person is registered
 - Person is not who he or she represents himself or herself to be
 - Person has already voted
 - In respect to voting in a partisan primary, Person is a registered voter of another political party
9. Alcoholic elections observer must be registered in precinct observing.

Runners:

1. Runners allowed for primary and general elections only.
2. Runner names must be submitted to the Craven County Board of Elections timely.
3. A runner may be a precinct party chair of a political party in the county (in a primary only if the party is participating in the primary) or other person named by the county party chair.
4. A runner is not allowed to be or serve as a precinct official or one-stop election official in that primary or election.
5. The primary purpose of the runner is to receive a list of voters from a precinct.
6. The runner can only enter the voting enclosure to receive a list of voters, announce their presence, then leave immediately after receiving the voter list at the designated time (2 pm).

IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE ELECTION PROCESS AND TO ALLOW OBSERVERS/RUNNERS TO PERFORM THEIR ROLES, THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN ADOPTED:

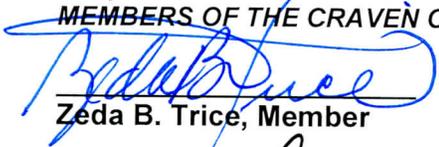
- A. Observer/runner lists must be timely submitted to CCBOE before being allowed to be an observer/runner.
- B. Observers/runners are allowed in Craven County primary and general elections. Observers only are allowed in alcoholic beverage elections. Craven County municipal elections are non-partisan elections, therefore no observers/runners are allowed.
- C. The observer/runner, in challenging a voter, will first communicate with an election official.

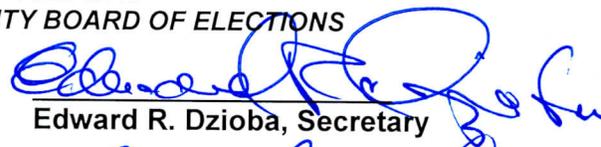
- D. Observers will be in a designated area as determined by the Craven County BOE and wear the provided identification badges.
- E. The observer/runner will abide by the guidelines set forth by the members of the Craven County Board of Elections.
- F. If the observer wishes to view or record the ATV forms or obtain a list of voters who have cast their ballots (if available), the observer will first communicate that specific request to the Chief Judge/One-Stop Supervisor of the precinct. The observer will abide by the hours of 10:00 A.M., 2:00 P.M., and 4:00 P.M. for observation times. The runner will abide by the 2 pm designated time.
- G. The runner will be given the list of voters if available at the designated time of 2:00 pm only if the name of the runner was submitted timely and the observers have not been given the list of voters and will leave the voting enclosure immediately after receiving such list. Only one list per party.
- H. The observer/runner, must at all times honor the request of the Chief Judge/One-Stop Supervisor and use the laws of common sense and courtesy at all times.
- I. There will be only 2 observers from each political party, unaffiliated candidate campaign or alcoholic referendum committee in a polling site at one time except when one of the at-large observers is in the voting enclosure.
- J. When an observer leaves for any reason, that person may not re-enter the polling place. Observers must stay a minimum of 4 hours. Exception: Observer may exit voting enclosure to communicate on wireless electronic devices with the intent of returning to the voting enclosure. Does not apply to at-large observers.
- K. Some sort of personal identification must be presented to each Chief Judge/One-Stop Supervisor to confirm that the observer/runner is the person designated on the list provided by each political party chairperson for that precinct.
- L. Allowed:
 - ✓ Observer may make observations and take notes
 - ✓ Observer may observe the registration, ballot, and help tables without impeding voters or precinct officials with chief judge or one-stop supervisor permission
 - ✓ Observer may walk outside the voting enclosure to observe the curbside voting area
 - ✓ Runner may obtain a list of people voting at 2 pm; Observers may make a list of people voting by using the ATV's.
 - ✓ Observer may possess personal electronic devices, as long as they are not disruptive to voters or election officials
 - ✓ Observers are to report concerns/incidents to the chief judge, one-stop supervisor or county elections director
 - ✓ Observers may observe the closing procedures
- M. Prohibited:
 - Observer/runner not allowed to enter the voting enclosure before the polls open
 - Observer/runner not allowed to speak to voters, assistants, and election officials. (only speak to Chief Judge/one-stop supervisor)
 - Observer/runner shall not wear any campaign advertisement on any article of clothing when they are in any Craven County polling site, nor can they distribute or carry any campaign information or literature into a Craven County polling place
 - Observer/runner shall not stand behind the registration/help table or in a position to see confidential voter information
 - Observer/runner shall not enter voting booth area

- Observer/runner shall not interfere with the privacy of a curbside voter while the voter is voting
- Observer/runner shall not board a bus or other vehicle containing curbside voters
- Observer/runner shall not provide voter assistance or directions
- Observer/runner shall not photograph or video voters without the consent of the voter and chief judge/one-stop supervisor
- Observer/runner shall not photograph or video a candidate without the candidate's consent

Adopted: DATED THIS 12th DAY OF June 2019

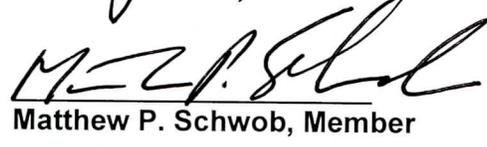
MEMBERS OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

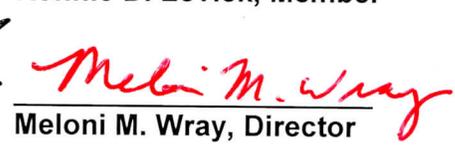

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