

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release** 

March 4, 2015

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## **Last-Minute Reminders for March 10 Municipal Elections**

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark encourages citizens who plan to vote in the March 10 Municipal Elections to remember the following information to make Election Day go smoothly:

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE:

- Registered voters in the Town of Belleair, City of Belleair Beach, City of Indian Rocks Beach, Town of Kenneth
  City, City of Oldsmar, City of Safety Harbor, City of St. Pete Beach and City of Treasure Island may vote in
  their respective nonpartisan elections.
- The deadline to register to vote was February 9 (29 days prior to the election).

## WHEN:

• Polling places will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

## WHERE:

- State law requires that a voter vote in the **precinct in which he/she resides.** A voter who has moved is required to vote in his/her **new** home precinct.
- Polling places for municipal elections may be different than those for county elections. Voters are
  encouraged to confirm their polling places by visiting <u>VotePinellas.com</u> and clicking on the 'March 10
  Municipal Elections' link on the homepage, or calling (727) 464-VOTE (8683).

## HOW:

- Voters should bring <u>photo and signature identification</u> to the polls if possible to avoid delays. Anyone without valid and current ID may vote a provisional ballot. The canvassing board will later determine the validity of any provisional ballots.
- Voters are encouraged to make any address changes prior to Election Day online at <u>VotePinellas.com</u>; calling 464-VOTE; or emailing <u>Election@VotePinellas.com</u> (include birth date).
- Name changes may be made by sending a signed, written statement to the Supervisor of Elections (13001 Starkey Rd., Largo, FL 33773); include birth date or voter ID number.
- Signature updates may be made by completing and signing a voter registration application, available at VotePinellas.com, and returning it to the Supervisor of Elections.
- It is important to have your current signature on file so that the signature on your mail ballot certificate envelope can be verified.

## **MAIL BALLOTS:**

- Any voter may request a mail ballot. The deadline to request a ballot to be mailed is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday,
   March 4.
- Beginning Thursday, **March 5**, a voter may designate in writing a person to pick up his/her ballot; however, the designee may not pick up more than two mail ballots per election in addition to the designee's own ballot or a ballot for an immediate family member.
- Mail ballots may still be picked up or voted in person at any Elections Office through Monday, March 9. Florida state law provides that mail ballot pickup and voting in Supervisor of Elections Offices on Election Day is only permitted in the case of an emergency. A voter or voter's designee must sign an affidavit affirming that the voter is unable to go to his/her polling place on Election Day due to an emergency and provide the reason for the emergency.
- Ballots must be **received by 7:00 p.m., March 10** at any of the three Elections Offices. Mail ballots **cannot** be accepted at a precinct polling place.
- A voter who requests a mail ballot but later decides to vote at the polling place instead may bring his/her ballot to the polling place to be **cancelled** and then receive a new ballot to vote at the polls.
- <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Postal delivery service has changed. Voters are advised to allow at least 5 days for their ballot to be returned by mail to the Supervisor of Elections office.

## OTHER INFORMATION:

- No political activity or campaign signs are allowed inside the polling place or within 100 feet of the polling place entrance or elections office entrance. Exit polling is permitted in designated areas as voters are leaving the polls.
- No photography is allowed inside the polling place.
- Media wishing to visit a polling place on Election Day should contact the Supervisor of Elections office to make arrangements (727) 464-4988.
- Sample ballots may be viewed at VotePinellas.com.
- If you have any other election-related questions, please call the Elections Office at (727) 464-VOTE (8683).

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