



ELECTION EXTRA



Deborah Clark, Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections

August 2015

August marks two very important events in elections history – the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the 95th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Both pieces of legislation granted voting rights to groups that had fought for many years for the right to cast a ballot.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on August 6, 1965. It was crafted to enforce the 14th and 15th Amendments at the state and local levels, providing protections for voting rights and prohibiting racial discrimination at the polls.



*President Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
(credit: Johnson White House Photographs)*

The Department of Justice has noted the Voting Rights Act as “the single most effective piece of civil rights legislation ever passed by Congress.”

The adoption of the 19th amendment on August 18, 1920, granted women the right to vote. It was the centerpiece of the women’s rights movement which began back in the late 1840s – known as Women’s Suffrage.

In May 1919, U.S. Representative James R. Mann from Illinois, chairman of the Suffrage Committee, proposed a resolution to approve an amendment granting women the right to vote that would pass both the House and the Senate. A little over a year later, Tennessee became the final state needed to ratify the amendment.

On November 2, 1920, more than 8 million women from across the United States voted for the first time in the presidential election.

Access to voter registration and ballots for all citizens remains one of the fundamental principles of our Representative Democracy. Please remember that our right to vote is a responsibility and a privilege fought for by many brave men and women over many generations of this great nation.

Avoid the Rain - Vote by Mail

Don't let heavy rain or flooding, like Pinellas County has recently experienced, keep you from casting your ballot come Election Day!

Sign up to vote by mail and mark your ballot in the comfort of your home, on your schedule - and out of the bad weather.

Request your mail ballot today! Visit VotePinellas.com and click on the “Request a Mail Ballot” button at the top of the page, call (727) 464-VOTE (8683), or email Absentee@VotePinellas.com.



August 25, 2015

St. Petersburg Primary Election

Council Member District 7

Polls Open 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Mail ballots must be received by 7 p.m. in any Supervisor of Elections office.

The two candidates receiving the most votes will be placed on the November 3, 2015 [Municipal General Elections](#) ballot.

For more information, please visit VotePinellas.com.



We were proud to support the Pinellas Education Foundation’s “Stuff the Bus” program in August. Our staff collected boxes full of school supplies – including backpacks, notebooks, pencils, pens, glue, scissors and calculators – for those students in need to have the tools necessary to help them be successful during this upcoming school year.



The donation was part of the Supervisor of Elections Office’s “Day of Caring” program, in which we select a community initiative to support each quarter.

We wish all our Pinellas County students, parents and faculty the best of luck as they head back to school this month!



The Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections is now on Instagram!

Follow @VotePinellas for behind-the-scenes photos of your Supervisor of Elections Office in action!