

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 27, 2015

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(727) 464-4988 or 464-6108

Last-Minute Reminders for November 3 Municipal General Elections; Deadline to Request a Ballot to be Mailed is October 28 at 5:00 p.m.

The Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Office encourages registered voters in the November 3 Municipal General Elections to remember the following information to make sure Election Day goes smoothly:

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE:

- Registered voters in the City of Seminole and the City of St. Petersburg.
- The deadline to register to vote was **October 5, 2015** (29 days prior to the election).

WHEN:

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

WHERE:

- State law requires voters to vote in the **precinct in which they reside.** Voters who have moved are required to vote in their **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 VotePinellas.com 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 Office.
- 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,
 October 28.
- Beginning Thursday, **October 29**, voters may designate in writing a person to pick up their 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, November 2.
- Florida state law provides that mail ballot pickup and voting in Supervisor of Elections Offices on Election Day is <u>only</u> 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., November 3** at any one of the three Supervisor of Elections Offices. Mail ballots **cannot** be accepted at a precinct polling place.
- <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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