

# **Voting 101**

## **A Voter's Guide**



**Vicki Davis**  
**Supervisor of Elections**

## **Mission Statement**

As a gatekeeper of the democratic process, the Supervisor of Elections will uphold the election laws of the State of Florida and the Constitution of the United States. The mission of the Supervisor of Elections is to enhance public confidence; encourage citizen participation; and increase voter awareness and education for citizens of all ages.

## **Elections Center**

Monday thru Friday  
8 am – 5 pm

135 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Stuart FL 34994

PO Box 1257  
Stuart FL 34995

Office – (772) 288-5637  
TTY – (772)692-7320  
Spanish hotline – (833) 912-1314  
Fax – (772) 288-5765

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**VICKI DAVIS**  
MARTIN COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Dear Martin County Voter,

As Supervisor of Elections, my primary goals are to help inform and educate the voters of Martin County and to promote a higher voter turnout. This guide will provide answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about registration and voting procedures. I hope you will find it useful, and I encourage you to keep it handy.

You can receive the most current voting information by visiting my official website [www.MartinVotes.gov](http://www.MartinVotes.gov) or by contacting the Elections Center at (772) 288-5637.

Thank you for taking the time to read this voter information guide. I look forward to providing you with the information you need to be an active and informed participant in the elections process.

Vicki Davis  
Supervisor of Elections



## **Voter's Bill of Rights**

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting
4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from elections officers
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by elections officers or any other person
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast

## **Voter's Responsibilities**

Each registered voter in this state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues
2. Maintain with the office of the Supervisor of Elections a current address
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct
6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy
7. Respect the privacy of other voters
8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Supervisor of Elections
9. Ask questions, if needed
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station

**NOTE TO VOTER:** Failure to perform any of these responsibilities does not prohibit a voter from voting

## 2026 Election Dates

**Primary Election** August 18, 2026  
**Registration Deadline** July 21, 2026  
**Early Voting** August 8 - 13  
8 to 5 daily  
**Early Voting Locations**  
**Elections Center**  
135 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
Stuart FL 34994  
**Elisabeth Lahti Library**  
15200 E Thelma Waters Ave  
Indiantown FL 34956  
**Hobe Sound Library**  
10595 SE Federal Hwy  
Hobe Sound FL 33455

**General Election** November 3, 2026  
**Registration Deadline** October 7, 2026  
**Early Voting** October 21 - 31  
8 to 5 daily  
**Early Voting Locations**  
**Elections Center**  
135 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
Stuart FL 34994  
**Cummings Library**  
2551 SW Matheson Ave  
Palm City FL 34990  
**Elisabeth Lahti Library**  
15200 E Thelma Waters Ave  
Indiantown FL 34956  
**Hobe Sound Library**  
10595 SE Federal Hwy  
Hobe Sound FL 33455  
**Hoke Library**  
1150 NE Jack Williams Way  
Jensen Beach FL 34957  
**Robert Morgade Library**  
5851 SE Community Dr  
Stuart FL 34997

## Voter Registration

### To be eligible to register to vote you must:

- Be a United States Citizen
- Be a Florida resident
- Be 18 or older – you may pre-register at 16
- Not be a convicted felon, or if so, your civil rights must have been restored
- Not have been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, your competency rights must have been restored

You can register to vote at any of the following locations or online at <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>:

- Elections Center
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Tax Collector
- State Agencies

### Voter registration applications are available at the following locations:

- Public Libraries
- Chambers of Commerce
- Indian River State College

If you would like a voter registration application mailed to you, please contact the Elections Center at (772) 288-5637

### Deadline to Register to Vote

You may apply to register to vote at any time. However, the registration books for new registrants close 29 days prior to each election. Updates to your name, address and signature are accepted at any time. Political party changes made after the registration books close for a primary election will not become effective until after the election.

### Address Change

If you move within the county, please do one of the following in order for your voter registration to be up to date:

- Call the Elections Center – (772) 288-5637
- Mail a signed note to the Elections Center – PO Box 1257, Stuart, FL 34995
- Fax a signed note to the Elections Center – (772) 288-5765
- Email the Elections Center – [elections@MartinVotes.gov](mailto:elections@MartinVotes.gov)
- Online at <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>

If you move to another county within Florida, please do one of the following in order for your voter registration to be up to date:

- Call the Elections Center – (772) 288-5637
- Email the Elections Center (must include birth date)– [elections@MartinVotes.gov](mailto:elections@MartinVotes.gov)
- Complete and mail a Voter Registration Application to your county
- Online at <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>
- Update your information at the Department of Motor Vehicles

### Name Change

Voters may change their name by written notice that contains the voter's date of birth or voter registration number, on a Voter Registration Application or online at

<https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>. Applications are available at the following:

- Public Libraries
- Chambers of Commerce
- Indian River State College

### Signature Change

Has your signature changed? When you return a Vote by Mail ballot or sign a petition, your signature is verified against the signature we have on file. If the signatures do not match, your ballot may not be counted or your petition may not be accepted.

A signature change can only be accomplished by completing and mailing a Voter Registration Application to the Supervisor of Elections. Applications are available at the following:

- Libraries
- Post Offices
- Elections Office
- Or online at <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>

If you would like an application to be mailed to you, please contact the Elections Center (772) 288-5637

★ Elected Officials  
Offices up for election in 2026

**Federal**  
**President and Vice President**  
4 Year Term

President Donald J. Trump  
Vice President JD Vance

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, DC 20500  
(202)456-1414  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

**United States Senate**  
6 Year Term

Rick Scott  
110 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5274

415 Clematis Street, Suite 201  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
(561) 514-0189  
[www.rickscott.senate.gov](http://www.rickscott.senate.gov)

★ Ashley Moody  
SR-387 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3041

4822 Northlake Boulevard, Suite B-1  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418  
(561) 775-3360  
<https://www.moody.senate.gov/>

★ **United States House of Representatives**  
2 Year Term

**District 18**  
Brian J. Mast

2182 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202)225-3026

171 SW Flagler Avenue  
Stuart, FL 34994  
(772)403-9000  
[www.mast.house.gov](http://www.mast.house.gov)

 **Governor and Cabinet**  
**4 Year Term**

**Governor**  
Ron Desantis  
(850)488-7146  
[www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com)

**Lieutenant Governor**  
Jay Collins  
(850)488-4711  
[www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com)

**Attorney General**  
James Uthmeier  
(850)414-3300  
[www.myfloridalegal.com](http://www.myfloridalegal.com)

**Chief Financial Officer**  
Blaise Ingolia  
877-693-5236  
[www.myfloridacfo.com](http://www.myfloridacfo.com)

**Commissioner of Agriculture**  
Wilton Simpson  
850-617-7700  
[www.fdacs.gov](http://www.fdacs.gov)

Address for each of the above: The Capitol, 400 S Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**Florida Senate**  
**4 Year Term**

**District 25**  
Gayle Harrell  
404 Senate Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100  
(850) 487-5031

312 SE Denver Avenue  
Stuart, FL 34994  
(772) 221-4019  
[harrell.gayle@flsenate.gov](mailto:harrell.gayle@flsenate.gov)

 **Florida House**  
**2 Year Term**

**District 82**  
John Snyder  
303 House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 717-5086

**District 83**  
Toby Overdorf  
402 House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 717-5085

4239 Southwest High Meadow Avenue #201  
Palm City, FL 34990-3728  
(772) 403-1064  
[www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)

151 Southwest Flagler Avenue  
Stuart, FL 34994-2139  
(772) 403-9560  
[www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)

**County  
Constitutional Officers  
4 Year Term**

**Sheriff**

John Budensiek  
800 SE Monterey Rd  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 220-7024  
[www.mcsofl.org](http://www.mcsofl.org)

**Property Appraiser**

Jenny Fields  
3473 SE Willoughby Blvd. 101  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 288-5608  
[www.pa.martin.fl.us](http://www.pa.martin.fl.us)

**Clerk of the Circuit Court and  
Comptroller**

Carolyn Timmann  
100 SE Ocean Blvd  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 288-5576  
[www.martinclerk.com](http://www.martinclerk.com)

**Supervisor of Elections**

Vicki Davis  
135 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 288-5637  
[www.MartinVotes.gov](http://www.MartinVotes.gov)

**Tax Collector**

Ruth Pietruszewski  
3485 SE Willoughby Blvd  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 288-5600  
[www.martintaxcollector.com](http://www.martintaxcollector.com)

**Superintendent of Schools  
Appointed**

Michael Maine  
1939 SE Federal Hwy.  
Stuart, Florida 34994  
(772) 219-1200 Ext. 30222  
[www.martinschools.org](http://www.martinschools.org)

**County Commissioners  
4 Year Term**

*Commissioners must live in District but are elected county wide*

**District 1**

Eileen Vargas  
(772) 221-2359  
[district1@martin.fl.us](mailto:district1@martin.fl.us)

★ **District 2**

Stacey Hetherington  
(772) 288-5421  
[district2@martin.fl.us](mailto:district2@martin.fl.us)

**District 3**

J. Blake Capps  
(772) 221-2357  
[district3@martin.fl.us](mailto:district3@martin.fl.us)

★ **District 4**

Sarah Heard  
(772) 221-2358  
[district4@martin.fl.us](mailto:district4@martin.fl.us)

**District 5**

Edward Ciampi  
(772) 221-1357  
[district5@martin.fl.us](mailto:district5@martin.fl.us)

**Address for the County Commissioners:**

2401 SE Monterey Rd  
Stuart FL 34996  
[www.martin.fl.us](http://www.martin.fl.us)

**School Board  
4 Year Term**

*Board Members must live in District but are elected county wide*

★ **District 1**

Christia Li Roberts  
(772) 219-1200 Ext 30510  
[robertcl@martinschools.org](mailto:robertcl@martinschools.org)

**District 2**

Marsha Powers  
(772) 219-1200 Ext 30514  
[powersm@martinschools.org](mailto:powersm@martinschools.org)

★ **District 3**

Jennifer Russell  
(772) 219-1200 Ext 30512  
[russelj@martinschools.org](mailto:russelj@martinschools.org)

★ **District 4**

Amy Pritchett  
(772) 219-1200 Ext 30508  
[pritcha@martinschools.org](mailto:pritcha@martinschools.org)

**District 5**

Brian Moriarty  
(772) 219-1200 Ext 30516  
[moriarb@martinschools.org](mailto:moriarb@martinschools.org)

**Address for the School Board:**  
1939 SE Federal Hwy  
Stuart FL 34994  
[www.martinschools.org](http://www.martinschools.org)

**County Judges**

Darren Steele  
★ Jennifer Alcorta Waters  
★ Kathleen Roberts

**Circuit Court, 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit**

**State Attorney**

**4 Year Term**  
Tom Bakkedahl  
(772) 288-5646

**Public Defender**

**4 Year Term**  
Diamond Litty  
(772) 288-5581

**Circuit Judges  
6 years term**

For listings, visit:

[www.circuit19.org](http://www.circuit19.org)

Court Administration Main Address  
250 NW Country Club Dr., Suite 217  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

## Election Information

### Primary Election

Florida is a closed primary state. Eligible voters will be permitted to vote the official ballot of the political party in which they are registered.

### Universal Primary Contest

A Universal Primary Contest (UPC) occurs when a race has qualified candidates of the same party and there is no opposition in the General Election. All registered voters, regardless of their party affiliation, are eligible to vote in this race.

If you are a registered Democrat, you will be eligible to vote the following in a primary:

- Democratic races containing two or more Democratic candidates
- Universal Primary Contests
- Nonpartisan races
- Judicial
- School Board
- Referendums

If you are a registered Republican, you will be eligible to vote the following in a primary:

- Republican races containing two or more Republican candidates
- Universal Primary Contests
- Nonpartisan races
- Judicial
- School Board
- Referendums

If you are registered with a Minor Party or No Party, you will be eligible to vote the following in a primary:

- Universal Primary Contests
- Nonpartisan races
- Judicial
- School Board
- Referendums

### General Election

General Elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even numbered years. Every eligible voter, regardless of their party affiliation, is permitted to vote for any candidate on the ballot.

## Election Day

Polls are open from 7 am – 7 pm

Florida Statutes requires voters to vote in their precinct on Election Day. To verify your precinct:

- [www.MartinVotes.gov](http://www.MartinVotes.gov) – click on Where Do I Vote?
- Contact the Elections Center – (772) 288-5637

You are required to provide a photo and signature identification to vote on Election Day.

Acceptable forms:

- Florida driver license
- Florida identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles
- U.S. passport
- Debit or credit card
- Military identification
- Student identification
- Retirement center identification
- Neighborhood association identification
- Public assistance identification
- Veteran health identification card issued by the US Department of Veterans Affairs
- A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm
- Employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the Federal Government, the state, county or municipality

If your photo identification does not contain your signature, you will need to show additional identification that provides your signature.

You will then be asked to sign the precinct register or electronic poll book and allowed to vote. The poll worker will issue your ballot. If you make a mistake, ask for a replacement ballot. You may receive up to 2 replacement ballots.

### Assistance

If you require assistance for voting, please inform the Clerk. You may bring someone with you other than an employer or an officer of your union to assist you or the Clerk will assign two poll workers of two different political parties to assist.

## Early Voting

Early Voting is held 10 to 15 days prior to an Election. For **Primary Elections**, Early Voting locations are:

- Elections Center -135 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd - Stuart
- Elisabeth Lahti Library -15200 E Thelma Waters Ave - Indiantown
- Hobe Sound Library - 10595 SE Federal Hwy – Hobe Sound

Early Voting for the **General Election** will be held at the following locations:

- Elections Center -135 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd - Stuart
- Elisabeth Lahti Library -1520 SW Adams Ave - Indiantown
- Hobe Sound Library - 10595 SE Federal Hwy – Hobe Sound
- Hoke Library - 1150 NW Jack Williams Way - Jensen Beach
- Peter & Julie Cummings Library - 2551 SW Matheson Ave - Palm City
- Robert Morgade Library - 5851 SE Community Dr – Stuart

## Vote by Mail

Per Florida Statute 101.62, all eligible voters may Vote by Mail. A voter or if directly instructed by the voter, a member of the voter's immediate family may request an absentee ballot by the following means:

- In person
- By mail
- By telephone
- By email
- [www.MartinVotes.gov](http://www.MartinVotes.gov)

When requesting a Vote by Mail ballot, be prepared to supply the following Information:

- Voter's name
- Voter's address
- Voter's date of birth
- Address to mail the ballot – Vote by Mail ballots will not be forwarded
  - ✓ If ballot is to be mailed to a different address, request must be made in writing
- Voter's signature, if written request
- Requester's name
- Requester's address
- Requester's driver license number, if available
- Requester's relationship to the voter
- Requester's signature, if written request

A request for a Vote by Mail ballot to be mailed must be received by the Supervisor of Elections no later than 5 pm on the tenth day prior to the election.

A voter may also pick up their ballot at the Elections Center once the Vote by Mail ballots are available until 7 pm on Election Day.

Another option to receive a Vote by Mail ballot is to designate a person to pick up your ballot. A designee may pick up the ballot beginning 9 days prior to the Election. They must have signed, written authorization from the voter, present a picture I.D. and sign an affidavit.

Vote by mail ballots must be mailed or dropped off to the Elections Center no later than 7 pm on the day of the election. On election day, do not return your voted ballot to a precinct because it would not reach the Elections Center by 7 pm. If you have received a Vote by Mail ballot and choose to vote at your precinct, bring the unvoted ballot with you and it will be cancelled.

You can track the status of your Vote by Mail ballot by visiting our website, [www.MartinVotes.gov/vote-by-mail-information](http://www.MartinVotes.gov/vote-by-mail-information) and clicking on Track My Ballot. You may also sign up for BallotTrax to receive notifications on the status of your vote by mail ballot by visiting <https://martincountyvotes.ballottrax.net>.

## Work the Polls

### What are Election Workers?

Poll Workers are registered voters who are appointed by the Supervisor of Elections to administer the election process at the precinct on Election Day. Poll Workers are responsible to ensure the election process is administered fairly, efficiently and according to Florida Statutes.

There are different categories of poll workers:

- Clerk
- Assistant Clerk
- Inspector
- Voting Equipment Technician
- Poll Deputy

As an election worker you are required to be at your precinct by 5:45 am and remain until dismissed by the Clerk after the polls close at 7 pm.

### How Can I Become an Election Worker?

You may call the Supervisor of Elections Office, (772) 288-5637, and request a poll worker application, or you may complete an [on-line request form](#). Once the application has been completed and sent to us, you will be contacted to attend an orientation session.

This document may be reproduced upon request in an alternative format by the Elections Office (772) 288-5637 or email [elections@MartinVotes.gov](mailto:elections@MartinVotes.gov)