



## Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office

### Message Concerning Upcoming Election & In-Person Voting Procedures

The Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office encourages all eligible voters to cast their ballot this election in a fair and safe manner. The Texas Election Code provides guidance and regulations to assist with the process of voting. Please keep in mind the following rules when visiting your polling location:

- The use of recording devices, including **cell phones**, are **not** permitted within the polling location. This includes within 100 feet outside of the polling location.
- Voters may bring lists of their chosen candidates to the voting booth (not a cell phone list—see above). Use of a printed sample ballot or list is permitted, but you may not distribute them when you are done voting to others at the polling location or within the 100 foot radius.
- The First Amendment allows electioneering beyond the 100 foot radius of a polling location. Inside 100 feet of each polling location, the following limitations apply:
  - **Apparel** (hats, shirts, buttons) concerning any particular candidate, a candidate's slogan, or any proposition on the ballot is not permitted. This is considered "electioneering."
    - "Build. Back. Better" and "Make America Great Again" are both campaign slogans of the presidential candidates and are not permitted within the 100 foot radius of the polls.
    - "Black Lives Matter" or "All Lives Matter" attire is permitted as it does not concern any particular candidate, candidate's slogan, nor any proposition on the ballot.
  - **Mailers, handouts, and other election material** may not be distributed between individuals inside the 100 foot polling place radius. (You may keep written materials to aid yourself).
- Due to the pandemic and the emergency orders by the Governor and local officials, **masks and social distancing** are encouraged for your safety and the safety of others.
- **Curbside voting** is available at each polling location upon request for individuals with disabilities.
- Federal law prohibits federal employees, federal law enforcement, and the military from using their official power to interfere with an election. Federal law also prohibits the military or other armed federal officers from being present at polling locations except to repel armed enemies of the United States.
- **State Law prohibits intimidation of voters and interference with election workers.**
- Poll watchers may be present inside the polling places and are permitted to observe election proceedings. They may **not** cause disruptions, talk to voters, or interfere with voters casting their ballots.

For your convenience, early voting locations are available throughout the county beginning Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. We encourage you to vote early to avoid the long lines expected on Election Day. A list of early voting locations may be found [here](#).

To report a criminal violation of the election laws, voter complaint forms will be available on the [Fort Bend County District Attorney Website](#).