

Elections System of the Virgin Islands

Poll Watchers Procedural Guide



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I. OTHERS ALLOWED AT THE POLLS-ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Poll Watchers

Poll watchers are allowed to:

- a) Be present in the polling place before the polls open, throughout the day and after the polls close. Two watchers for each candidate at the Primary Election or three for each political party or independent at the General Election **may be** appointed. However, only one watcher may remain in the polling place at any one time.
- b) Keep a list of voters for use in connection with challenging any person making application to vote.
- c) Periodically request to inspect the voting station when not in use by the voters to see if the ballots are in proper position and have not been marked upon or defaced.

Poll watchers may:

- a) Observe the verification process of the voter.
- b) Be permanently ejected from the polling place or polling grounds upon the determination by the judge of elections or, in his or her absence by both the election inspectors, if such watchers have violated any proscription under Title 18 or are otherwise disrupting the election process.

Poll watchers have a right to:

- a. Be present in the polling place before the polls open, throughout the day and after the polls close.
- b. Be present while election officers are removing cartridges and tabulating votes to observe the procedures. This includes absentee ballot and the canvassing of write-in vote.

Poll Watchers must:

- a. Identify themselves to the Judge of the Election, who will monitor their activities at the poll.
- b. Have in their possession a valid Poll Watchers certificate issued by the District Board of Elections.
- c. Not interfere with the orderly voting process.