



ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Citizen's Guide

to Registering and Voting

Official Publication from your St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections

2018 ELECTION DATES



PRIMARY ELECTION
AUGUST 28, 2018

VOTER REGISTRATION & PARTY CHANGE DEADLINE:
JULY 30, 2018



GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 6, 2018

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
OCTOBER 9, 2018

Your questions, answered.

This publication is designed to help you become Election Ready!

- ★ Which offices are up for election?
- ★ What is a closed Primary?
- ★ Where do I vote?
- ★ How do I view my sample ballot?
- ★ How do I register to vote?
- ★ Can I request a mail ballot?
- ★ How can I learn more about the candidates?

Voting has never been easier than it is today!

Any registered voter can request a ballot to Vote by Mail
Early voting is conducted prior to each election
Vote at your precinct on election day 7 AM – 7 PM

It's an honor and a privilege to serve as your St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections. In preparation for this very important election year, I would like to encourage all citizens to register and vote in every election. It only takes a few minutes to register to vote or update your information. As a registered voter, you may also request a ballot to vote by mail.

My staff and I are here to serve you, and we will make it easy for you to vote. Please visit our office, call or use our online resources to help you prepare for election day.



Supervisor of Elections
4455 Avenue A, #101 St. Augustine, FL 32095
(904) 823-2238 FAX (904) 823-2249
www.votesjc.com

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St. Augustine, FL 32095-9983



2018 ST. JOHNS COUNTY

REGISTER TO VOTE AND BECOME INFORMED

REGISTERING TO VOTE IS EASY

You **CAN** register to vote if:

- You are a citizen of the United States of America
- You are at least 18 years of age (you may preregister at age 16)
- You are a legal resident of the State of Florida and of the county where you intend to vote

You **CANNOT** register to vote if:

- You are not a citizen of the United States of America. (A lawful permanent resident cannot register or vote in Florida.)
- You have been convicted of a felony or adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting, unless and until your right to vote has been restored. For felony convictions, if you are not sure if your rights have been restored, contact the Office of Executive Clemency at www.FLrestoremyrights.com.

Register By Mail:

Voter Registration Application forms are available to print online at votesjc.com. Simply complete an application and return it to the Elections Office.

Where to Register In Person:

To register in person, simply complete a Florida Voter Registration Application at an authorized agency, which includes: any Supervisor of Elections Office, public libraries, Florida Driver License offices, any office that provides public assistance or serves persons with disabilities (centers for independent living, WIC and Florida Department of Children and Families Offices), and armed forces recruitment offices. You may also submit your voter registration information at the same time you apply for a new or renewed Florida Driver License or Florida ID. The information will be forwarded to our office for processing.

What You Will Need to Register:

You will need your Florida Driver License number, Florida ID number, or if you have not been issued one, the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you have not been issued any of the numbers above, check the box next to "I have NONE of these numbers" on the Florida Voter Registration Application.

When to Register:

You can register at any time. However, if you want to vote in an upcoming election, **the deadline to register is the 29th day before that election.**

If you register by mail, have never been issued a Florida Driver License, Florida ID, or Social Security number, you will be required to provide a copy of a current and valid identification, or indicate that you are exempt from the requirements at the time you register or prior to voting. Required forms of identification and exemptions are listed on the application.

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Did you know you can now register to vote or makes changes to your voter information online? On October 1, 2017, Florida joined 35 other states and the District of Columbia which also have online voter registration available. RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov is mobile friendly and accessible through our website votesjc.com by selecting Register to Vote. This new service is convenient, simple and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To submit a registration online, applicants will need a Florida driver license or State identification (ID) card and the last four digits of their social security number. Once the individual's identity is verified and the application deemed complete, a voter information card will be issued by the Elections Office.

So the next time you need to update your information, just give it a try!



www.votesjc.com

ELECTION INFORMATION IS JUST A CLICK AWAY!



Use our website to:

- Register to vote
- Update your registration
- Check your voter status
- Change your address before you vote
- Verify your polling location
- Request a Vote by Mail ballot
- Track the status of your Vote by Mail ballot
- Find information on current Elected Officials
- View Candidate list, Reports and Profiles
- Read Constitutional Amendments
- View Past Election Results
- View District & Precinct Maps



My Voter Status

CHECK YOUR RECORD ONLINE

Visit www.votesjc.com and select My Voter Status:

- Review/update your voter information
- Request a Vote by Mail ballot
- Track your Vote by Mail ballot
- Find your polling location
- View your voter specific sample ballot

UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION

We need your help!

In order to keep our voter registration records current, we ask that you keep us informed of any changes to your information. It's simple. All changes can be made on a Florida Voter Registration Application form, and an address change can be made over the phone.

You may also register or update your voter registration online

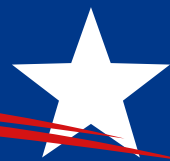
Online submission requires your Florida Driver License or Florida Identification Number and the last four digits of your social security number.

When completing the online form, if you do not have both a Florida Driver License or Florida ID, and the last four of your social security number you will be able to print, sign and mail the application form to the Supervisor of Elections Office.

SIGNATURE UPDATES:

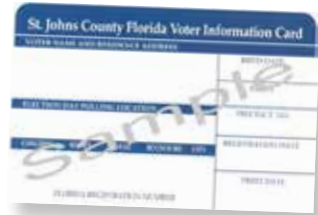
It is imperative that your signature be kept current at all times, especially if you vote by mail. The Supervisor of Elections must compare the signature on a voter's record with the signature contained on the ballot certificate; if the two do not match, it may result in your Vote-by-Mail ballot, provisional ballot, or petition not being counted.

NTY CITIZEN'S GUIDE



YOUR VOTER INFORMATION CARD

Once registered, a Voter Information Card will be mailed to you. This card provides your precinct number and polling location, as well as other information. If you do not receive your card within two weeks of registering, it is important that you contact the Elections Office immediately to ensure you are registered.



If your polling location or precinct changes, you will be mailed a new Voter Information Card with updated information on where to cast your ballot on election day.

You do not need your Voter Information Card for voting. When voting in person, you will need photo & signature ID.

FLORIDA HOLDS CLOSED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Florida is a closed primary state. That means that only voters who are registered members of a political party which has candidates on the primary ballot may vote for that party's candidates in a primary election.

Voters with no party affiliation (NPA) are not eligible to vote for party candidates in a primary election. However, all qualified voters regardless of party affiliation or no party affiliation can vote in the following races appearing on a primary election ballot:

- All candidates in the same race have the same party affiliation and the winner will have no opposition in the general election (This is known as a Universal Primary Contest.)
- Nonpartisan judicial and school board offices
- Nonpartisan municipal offices

In a general election, all registered voters may vote regardless of party affiliation.

**PRIMARY ELECTION PARTY CHANGE DEADLINE
JULY 30, 2018**

VOTE – IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Voting in Florida has never been easier. In any election, you can choose to:

VOTE BY MAIL

You may request a Vote by Mail Ballot by contacting our office in person, by mail, phone, fax, e-mail, or through our website. Requests for a ballot to be mailed must be received no later than 5 PM on the sixth day before an election. Follow the instructions included to complete and return your ballot.

Voted ballots must be received in the Supervisor of Elections Office no later than 7 PM on election day and may be returned by mail or hand delivered. Mail ballots will not be forwarded, so make sure we have your correct address.

You may track the status of your ballot at: votesjc.com by selecting My Voter Status.



VOTE EARLY

Early voting is offered for all elections. Regardless of your assigned polling location, during the early voting period all eligible St. Johns County voters may cast a ballot at any of the early voting locations within St. Johns County. For exact dates, times, and locations, visit our website, contact us by phone, e-mail, or refer to your sample ballot (mailed to voters approximately three weeks prior to election day).

VOTE ON ELECTION DAY AT YOUR ASSIGNED PRECINCT

Polls are open from 7 AM to 7 PM. You must vote at your assigned polling location based on your residence address.

YOUR PRECINCT MAY HAVE CHANGED

Several polling locations have changed since the last election. Affected voters were recently mailed a new voter information card. To find your election day polling location call the Elections Office or use the Precinct Finder available on our website votesjc.com. Your polling location is also listed on your sample ballot and voter information card.

Questions?

Visit votesjc.com

Vote by Mail

or Call 823-2238

There are 13 constitutional amendments on the November 6th General Election ballot. As a voter in St. Johns County, you will have a 2-page ballot.



Use the online request form available on our website to apply for a vote-by-mail ballot, or simply give the Elections Office a call to request your ballot today.

Make Sure Your Voice Is Heard. One Vote Can Make A Difference. Prepare Now To Be Election Ready.



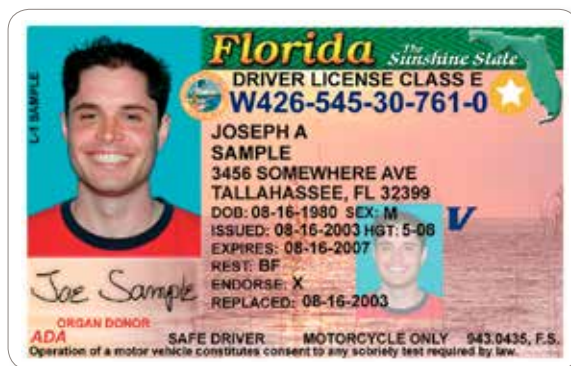
REVIEW YOUR VOTER INFORMATION CARD

To avoid delays and paperwork at the early voting site or polling place, be sure your address is current on your Voter Information Card. Inform us of any changes to your registration information before going to vote.

ACCEPTABLE IDENTIFICATION WHEN VOTING IN PERSON

Voter Information cards are not a valid form of identification when voting. Be sure to bring a current and valid photo ID when voting in-person. If the photo ID does not contain your signature, an additional ID that includes your signature shall be required. Example: Photo on Student ID and signature on a library card are acceptable. If you do not bring any ID, you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

- A Florida Driver license
- Florida ID card issued by the DMV
- United States Passport
- Debit or Credit Card
- Military ID
- Student ID
- License to carry a concealed weapon or firearm
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Veteran Health ID



- Retirement Center ID
- Government Employee ID

YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT: REVIEW IT, MARK IT, TAKE IT TO THE POLLS

Your sample ballot is based on your legal residence address and party affiliation (in primary elections) and will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to election day. If you would like your sample ballot e-mailed, please notify the Elections Office. Your sample ballot will contain your specific ballot style and information regarding voting opportunities in the election. It may also be used to research candidates and issues. You may mark your sample ballot and take it to the early voting site or polling place to use as a reference when voting.



WHO IS RUNNING FOR OFFICE?
Learn about local candidates and read the full text of proposed amendments.

www.votesjc.com

2018 Offices Scheduled for Election

Federal

- United States Senator
- Representative in Congress: Districts 4 & 6

State

- Governor & Lt. Governor
- Attorney General
- Chief Financial Officer
- Commissioner of Agriculture
- State Representative – House Districts 17 & 24
- Supreme Court Justices and Fifth Dist. Court of Appeal Judges whose terms will be expiring
- Circuit Judges, 7th Judicial Circuit: Groups 1, 2, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, 21 and 27

County

- County Judge – Group 1
- County Commissioner – Districts 2 and 4
- School Board Members – Districts 1, 3 and 4

Special Districts

- Anastasia Mosquito Control District – Seats 2 & 4
- St. Augustine – St. Johns County Airport Authority Groups 1, 2 and 3
- St. Johns Soil & Water Conservation District Groups 1, 2 and 5
- St. Augustine Port, Waterway & Beach Commission Groups 1, 3 and 5
- Municipal Service District of Ponte Vedra Beach Seats 1, 3, 5 and 7

Municipalities

- City of St. Augustine – Seats 3 / Mayor, 4 and 5
- City of St. Augustine Beach – Seats 3, 4 and 5

Community Development Districts

There are 16 districts up for election. For a complete listing of CDDs, visit votesjc.com.

Constitutional Amendments

There will be 13 constitutional amendments on the general election ballot. Look for them on your sample ballot or visit votesjc.com for more information.

HOW WE KNOW OUR VOTING SYSTEM IS SECURE



1. Our state certified voting equipment is tested before each election with a public logic and accuracy test to verify the tabulators are counting votes accurately.
2. The ballots and voting equipment are stored in a secure area in the Elections Office Warehouse with restricted key card access. Only authorized personnel are permitted to enter the area. During voting, our tabulators are kept in plain sight, secured with seals to prohibit tampering.
3. A stand-alone server, not connected to the internet, is used to program the election and tabulate the results.
4. A separate communication server on a private network, not connected to the internet, receives encrypted electronic election results from each precinct on election night when the polls close.
5. Electronic results from each tabulator are backed up by paper results tapes that are posted on the doors of each polling place election night and an additional tape is brought to the Elections Office.
6. An audit is performed on the paper results tape and electronic results received from each precinct to assure all voted ballots are accounted for and all results have been recorded correctly.
7. Paper ballots are retained for 22 months and can be re-tabulated if there is ever a question about results.
8. Election results are verified with a manual audit conducted after each election. A randomly selected race and precinct are hand-counted to verify the total matches the tabulated results.

Elections are conducted on a local level in all 67 counties in Florida. Safeguards are established in law. Elections office staff and poll workers belong to different political parties and have diverse backgrounds. It would be impossible to engineer this complex system to benefit a specific candidate or party. Sadly, there is an unwarranted sense of fear among some of our citizens – that is as dangerous to our democracy as a compromised election. I have total confidence in our voting system and our processes, and you can too. I promise you our elections are safe and secure.