

Alabama's Election Law

If we vote absentee, do we still have to get our ballots notarized or signed by two witnesses?

YES.

What are pollwatchers?

Each political party or organization can appoint someone to monitor the voting process, who may be at the polling place during all voting hours and remain afterward to watch the counting of ballots.

Can a pollwatcher campaign at the polls?

NO. They cannot suggest how people should vote or campaign in anyway. They cannot wear any button, ribbon or other article bearing the candidate's name.

As a voter, can I wear a candidate's button?

YES. A citizen who is at the polls to vote or assist someone in voting can wear a button, ribbon, or other such article.

Who is allowed inside the polling place?

In addition to poll watchers, only voters, people who are assisting voters, election officials, sheriffs and deputies are allowed inside the polling place.

How close can campaigners come to the polling place?

They must stand outside, at least 30 feet away from the door of the polling place.

Who is allowed to help voters?

Anyone can help a voter who wants assistance, except that voter's employer or an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. The voter does not have to give any reason for requesting assistance, nor to take any oath. The voter names the person to assist, and both must sign the poll list.

Can someone videotape at the polls?

NO. General news coverage of candidates and public officials voting and of crowds at the polling place is allowed, but the U.S. Department of Justice has expressed a concern that other videotaping may intimidate voters and it is not allowed.

Who is responsible for overseeing elections?

The sheriff, probate judge, and circuit court clerk are the officials responsible for conducting and supervising the elections process in each county.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ELECTION DAY TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AT 1-800-831-8814, OR THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE AT 1-800-274-VOTE (8683).