Election Day information

Items to bring to the polls on Election Day

- **Cell phone (if you have one)**
- **Digital camera (if you have one)**
- **Your poll watcher certificate (completed)**
- **The document about the validity of electronic signatures in NY State**
- **Pen and paper**
- **NY State checklists**
- **Multiple copies of the incident report form and possibly a clipboard**
- **This document**

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Please dress neatly. Remove all campaign buttons and other partisan symbols. According to election law, you may not wear them within 100 feet of the polling place. Please note if others have partisan buttons or symbols and make sure the election inspector see to it that they remove them.

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When you arrive at the polling place as a pollwatcher, introduce yourself to the election inspectors and ask where you can stand/sit to observe without interfering in the voting process. Up to three pollwatchers for each candidate can be in the polling place at once, but only one is allowed to be right at the sign-in table. If more than one of you will be there at one time, agree on who takes the first shift at the front.

Be pleasant, helpful, and don't get into arguments or interfere **unless you feel a voter is being disenfranchised**. But keep your eyes open and note down any other problems or issues so you can report on them after the election.

If you see something that does not look right, speak to the election inspector or the coordinator first. Only if they are unresponsive or unable to correct the situation, call one of the numbers below (in order of appearance):

Local Board of Elections……..(look up the number(s) and enter here**)**	
National Election Protection Hotline	**1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)**
Rachel Treichler (the candidate you are pollwatching for)	**1-607-569-2114**
Bo Lipari (he can tell you additional resources)	**1-607-351-2314**

For any incidents, please fill in as much data as you can on one of the incident report sheets you have printed out. (Then be sure to transfer that data to the online system for which you will get the URL in the next couple of days.)

Remember:

1. **You have a right to be there**
2. **You have to follow the rules**
3. If you run into any hostility, try to **resolve is as gently** as you can. If you can't resolve it, call one of the numbers above.
4. **Every registered voter has the right to vote**
   Preferably on the machine
   - If the machine breaks down, on **emergency ballots**
   - If the voter is not listed in the poll book but is in the correct precinct on an **affidavit ballot**
   - the voter is in the wrong precinct, s/he should be encouraged to go to the correct precinct, not cast an affidavit ballot.
   - Ballots cast on the machine and emergency ballots are counted the at the end of the day. Affidavit ballots will not be counted until all questions about them are resolved – often they do not get counted at, all unless the election is very close. **Affidavit ballots should be kept to a minimum.**
5. NY State does not have a general ID requirement. **Only voters with a notation in the poll book need to show ID,**
6. **Voter disenfranchisement is illegal** and needs to be avoided at all cost. If you see signs of it, take action.