

HOW DO I HANDLE THE MOST COMMON PROBLEMS?

- If a poll worker tells you that you are not on the list of registered voters but you believe that you should be (because you submitted a registration form before the deadline), first ask him or her to check the list again. If that fails, show the poll worker your voter registration card, or some other form of identification. By law, you will be permitted to vote on a provisional paper ballot even if the poll worker cannot confirm your registration. (Fla. Stat. § 101.031) The provisional ballot will NOT count unless it is later determined that you are eligible to vote and that you voted the provisional ballot in the correct precinct. Ask a poll worker to determine your correct precinct before voting a provisional ballot. If you are in the wrong precinct you should leave and go to your correct precinct. A provisional ballot cast in the wrong precinct will be thrown out as illegal. (Fla. Stat. § 101.048)

- If you need instructions on how to use the voting equipment in your precinct, ask a poll worker for help. You have the right to receive those instructions. (Fla. Stat. 101.031)

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

- Florida Voter Assistance Hotline Toll Free 1-866-308-6739
- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section: 1-800-253-3931
- National ACLU Voting Rights Project: 1-404-523-2721
- ACLU of Florida Voting Rights Project: 1-305-576-2337 or on election day, 1-888-262-4854

Produced by the
American Civil Liberties Union.

You must register in your new county in order to vote. (Fla. Stat. § 97.105)

- You may wish to check your voter registration status prior to election day by calling your county supervisor of elections. This is not required but will help you avoid problems on election day.

WHEN DO I VOTE?

- The primary election is August 31, 2004. The general election is November 2, 2004.
- The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Fla. Stat. § 100.011) You have the right to cast a vote if you are in line at the time the polls close. (Fla. Stat. § 101.031)

WHERE DO I VOTE?

- After your application for voter registration is processed by your county supervisor, you will receive a registration identification card that will tell you where to vote. If you do not receive a registration identification card or lose it before election day, contact your county supervisor to request a replacement card (Fla. Stat. § 97.071)

WHAT MUST I BRING WITH ME WHEN I VOTE?

- You should bring at least one form of identification with you to the polls.
- In general, if you do not bring proper ID but are registered to vote, you can sign an affidavit and then vote normally. (Fla. Stat. § 101.031).
- If you are a first-time voter who registered by mail and did not provide a copy of proper ID to the supervisor of elections prior to election day, you must bring an ID with you to the polls. If you do not bring an ID on Election Day, you will be able to vote by provisional ballot and will be given

2004 FLORIDA Voter Empowerment Card

HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

- The deadline for registering to vote is 29 days before the election. You must register by August 2, 2004 to vote in the primary election and by October 4, 2004 to vote in the general election. (Fla. Stat. § 97.055)

- You may register to vote by using the mail-in registration form. The form is available on the Florida Department of State's website at <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/regvotew/registrm.shtml>. You may also contact your county supervisor of elections to request a form. You can find the contact information for your county supervisor by going to <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/county/index.shtml>, or you can look it up in the government section of your phone book.

- If you are a first-time voter and are registering by mail, you should include a photocopy of valid photo ID that contains your signature with your voter registration form. This is not required but will help you avoid problems on election day. (Fla. Stat. § 97.0535)

- If you move within your county, you should fill out a new registration form to change your address. However, if you forget to do this before election day, you can go to your new polling place and fill out a change of address form there. If you move to another county in Florida,

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written instructions on how to determine whether or not your vote is counted. (Fla. Stat. § 101.048).

HOW WILL I VOTE?

- Depending on your county, you will vote on a paper ballot that will be scanned, or you will vote on a touch screen voting machine. PLEASE ASK A POLL WORKER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE VOTING PROCEDURE. If you need assistance because you are disabled, unable to read, or speak a language other than English, an election official will ask you to fill out a form requesting help. Then you may be accompanied into the voting booth by two election officials or by a person of your choice (other than your employer or an officer of your union) who may assist you in voting. (Fla. Stat. § 101.051).

HOW CAN I MINIMIZE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS ON ELECTION DAY?

- Call your county supervisor to double-check your registration status and polling place at least 30 days before Election Day.
- Bring more than one form of identification to the polls. This is not necessary to vote but can be helpful if any-one challenges your eligibility.
- Vote early in the day or take advantage of early voting sites in your county. Check with your county supervisor of elections.
- Read all instructions carefully.
- Take your time in the voting booth. You have up to five minutes to cast your ballot. (Fla. Stat. § 101.51)
- If you make a mistake when marking your choices on a paper ballot, ask for a new one. You can receive up to two replacement ballots. (Fla. Stat. § 101.5608)

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