

**CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT OF POLL WATCHER BY REGISTERED VOTERS
ON BEHALF OF A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE**

To the Presiding Judge/Deputy Early Voting Clerk:

The following person has been appointed to serve as a poll watcher on my behalf:

| | |
|--|---|
| Name of Poll Watcher | Name of Write-In Candidate |
| Residence Address of Poll Watcher | Name and Date of Election |
| Voter Registration VUID Number of Poll Watcher | Precinct or Other Location Poll Watcher is to Serve |

I, _____, am the candidate or the person authorized to make this appointment
(printed name of candidate or designee)
on behalf of the candidate and with the candidate's knowledge.

Residence Address/Office Address of signer:

Signature of Candidate or Designee (circle one)

Registered Voters Making the Appointment

Signature of Poll Watcher

OATH OF A POLL WATCHER

The following oath must be repeated aloud by the poll watcher before being accepted for service.

“I swear(or affirm) that I will not disrupt the voting process or harass voters in the discharge of my duties”

AFFIDAVIT OF POLL WATCHER

I, _____, a poll watcher for the above appointing authority, do
(printed name of watcher)

hereby swear or affirm that I do not have in my possession any type of mechanical or electronic means of recording images or sound while serving as a watcher or I will disable or deactivate the device while serving as a watcher; and swear or affirm that I have not been finally convicted of a felony of the first or second degree or a felony offense in connection with conduct directly attributable to an election.

TRAINING REQUIREMENT

I understand that I must present a physical copy of the Certificate of Completion of the Secretary of State Poll Watcher Training before being accepted for service. [Sec. 33.051, Texas Election Code]

Signature of Poll Watcher

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, _____.

Signature of Election Judge/Deputy

Printed Name of Election Judge/Deputy

INSTRUCTIONS

Registered voters have the authority to appoint a poll watcher on behalf of a write-in candidate whose name appears on the ballot. This type of appointment is made on behalf of a write-in candidate who is not a declared write-in candidate.

A group of registered voters may appoint watchers on behalf of a write-in candidate in an election in which a declaration of write-in candidacy is not required to be filed.

To be eligible to participate in the appointment (under this section) of a watcher for a precinct polling place, a person must be a registered voter of the precinct. If the countywide polling place program is being used, the voters signing the Certificate of Appointment must be registered voters of the county.

To be eligible to participate in the appointment (under this section) of a watcher for an early voting polling place, the meeting place of an early voting ballot board, or a central counting station, a person must be a registered voter of the territory served by that facility.

The minimum number of voters required to make an appointment under this section is the lesser of:

15; or

5% of the registered voters of the appropriate territory as determined from the list of registered voters to be used for the election.

A certificate issued to a watcher appointed for a write-in candidate under Section 33.004 Texas Election Code must:

Include the residence address and voter registration number of eligible signers in the required number;

Include the signed statement of the candidate, or a person who would be authorized to make appointments on the candidate's behalf if the candidate's name appeared on the ballot, that the appointment is made with the signer's consent; and

State the residence or office address of the signer and the capacity in which the signer signs, if the statement is not signed by the candidate.

A watcher appointed to serve at a precinct polling place or at the Post-Election Hand Count Audit under Section 127.201, must deliver the following materials to the presiding judge of the polling place or the presiding judge of the EVBB for the Post-Election Hand Count Audit, as applicable, at the time the watcher reports for service:

- (1) a certificate of appointment; and
- (2) a certificate of completion from training completed by the watcher under [Section 33.008]

The officer presented with a watcher's certificates shall require the watcher to countersign the certificate of appointment to ensure that the watcher is the same person who signed the certificate of appointment. A watcher who presents himself or herself at the proper time with the required certificates shall be accepted for service unless the person is ineligible to serve or the number of appointees to which the appointing authority is entitled have already been accepted.

A watcher may not be accepted for service if the watcher has possession of a device capable of recording images or sound unless the watcher agrees to disable or deactivate the device. The presiding judge may inquire whether a watcher has possession of any prohibited recording device before accepting the watcher for service. A watcher also may not be accepted for service if the watcher has been finally convicted of a felony of the first or second degree or a felony offense in connection with conduct directly attributable to an election.

If a watcher is not accepted for service, the certificates shall be returned to the watcher with a signed statement of the reason for the rejection.

On accepting a watcher for service, the election officer shall provide the watcher with a form of identification, prescribed by the secretary of state, to be displayed by the watcher during the watcher's hours of service at the polling place.

An election officer commits an offense if the officer intentionally or knowingly refuses to accept a watcher for service when acceptance of the watcher is required by this section. An offense under this subsection is a Class A misdemeanor.

Before accepting a watcher, the officer presented with a watcher's certificate of appointment shall require the watcher to take the following oath, administered by the officer: "I swear (or affirm) that I will not disrupt the voting process or harass voters in the discharge of my duties."