PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIAL (PEO)
ORIENTATION PACKAGE

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Dear Future Precinct Election Official:

First let me thank you for your interest in becoming a Precinct Election Official (PEO). The ultimate goal of every election is to ensure that we remain a “government of the people, by the people, for the people.”

Your participation is essential to ensure each voter experiences a positive, impartial and open environment, instilling confidence in the election process, and in the privacy and security of their vote.

Election days can sometimes be demanding, but at the end of the day you can be proud of a job well done. You will know that your service has helped to advance the cause of democracy, a right that many sometimes take for granted.

Please complete the following and hand-deliver pages 7 – 10 back to our office.

- PEO Standards Oath (Page 7 – 8)
- PEO Orientation Test (Pages 9 – 10)

Again, thank you for expressing your desire to work. Please don’t hesitate to contact my office if you have questions or need further assistance.

Respectfully,

Mark Andersen
Supervisor of Elections
Welcome to Precinct Election Official Orientation

Thank you for taking the time to come see what being a Precinct Election Official is all about. The purpose of this orientation is to provide you with the basic terminology and functions surrounding Precinct Election Official duties. This information will help you make the decision as to whether or not being a Precinct Election Official is right for you.

What to Expect as a Precinct Election Official

- Precinct Election Officials must be courteous and polite.
- Precinct Election Officials must attend a minimum of 1-4 hours of training prior to each election.
- Precinct Election Officials must be prepared to work a long day on election days.
- Precinct Election Officials must be at their assigned polling place by 6:15 a.m. and cannot leave until the polls have closed, the last voter has voted, and everything is packed up.
- Precinct Elections Officials cannot leave the polling place and return on Election Day.

Certifications

- The Clerk and (2) Assistant Clerk must be certified on the Accessible Voting System (AVS), the Ballot Counting System (BCS), Voter Check-In System (VCS), Ballot Issue Table and all precinct leadership requirements.
- They will be certified upon successful completion of a 3 hour Master Election Certification (MEC) class.

Titles and Duties:

Supervisor of Elections

- Mark Andersen, Supervisor of Elections, is the top election authority in Bay County for all Election Boards and is assisted by his staff in conducting efficient and accurate elections.

Election Board

- Consists of the Clerks and Inspectors at the precinct.
Clerk

- Is in charge of the precinct
- Attends Sensitivity and Conflict Resolution training (1 hour)
- Attends one time only Master Election Certification Training (4 hours for New Clerks)
- Attends Leadership Training (3 hours for Returning Clerks)
- Will instruct Assistant Clerks on setup of Ballot Counting System and Accessible Voting System.
- Makes sure the precinct is closed properly
- Returns election materials to the office election night

Assistant Clerks

- Assists the Clerk with their duties
- Attends Sensitivity and Conflict Resolution training (1 hour)
- Attends one time only Master Election Certification Training (4 hours for New Assistant Clerks)
- Attends Leadership Training (3 hours for Returning Clerks)
- Follows instructions from the Clerk
- Performs duties of the Clerk or Inspector in case of absence
- Responsible for setup of Ballot Counting System and Accessible Voting System.

Inspector

- Responsible for issuing the ballot to the voter
- Attends Sensitivity and Conflict Resolution training (1 hour)
- Attends Inspector Training (2 hours)
- Follows instructions from the Clerk
- Checks in voters
- Verifies voter information on the voter check in system
- Verifies the voter’s I.D. and signature
- Makes public proclamation of the opening and closing the polls
Deputy

- Maintains good order at the polling place
- Attends Sensitivity and Conflict Resolution training (1 hour)
- Attends Deputy Training (2 hours)
- Is deputized by the Bay County Sheriff’s Office.
- Follows instructions from the Clerk.
- Sets up Precinct Signs and cones.
- Greets and assists the voters into the polling place.

PEO Pay

- All Precinct Election Officials received $10 hour for training
- New Clerk, Assistant Clerks Master Election Certification (MEC) Training pay - $50.00
- Clerk - $220.00 per election
- Assistant Clerks - $190.00 per election
- Inspectors - $160.00 per election
- Deputy - $160.00 per election
- Pay is adjusted for shift work

*These wages are subject to change based on annual approved budget.

PEO Terminology

- **Accessible Voting System (AVS):** Election equipment that allows the voter to mark the ballot by “touching a screen” or by an audio ballot which is read to the voter.
- **Ballot Counting System (BCS):** Election equipment that counts/tabulates paper ballots.
- **Blue Security Cart:** Securely stores election supplies.
- **Precinct:** A voting location that is outlined by boundaries. Voters are assigned to precinct polling places according to where they live.
- **Voter Check In System (VCS):** Election equipment that contains access to voter registration information. The voter must sign in under his or her name before voting.
- **Voter Check In Table:** Location where inspectors will verify the voter’s information. The voter will sign in using the Voter Check-In System and be issued a Voting Certificate.
- **Voting Certificate:** A paper printed slip that indicates the voter has signed in and is eligible to receive a paper ballot.
Early Voting Sites vs. Precincts

- Early voting sites are open up to 15 days prior to an election and can process voters from any precinct.
- Precincts are open only on Election Day and can process only voters assigned to that Precinct.

Voting Process

- The Election Day polls open at 7 a.m.
- The Deputy will greet the voter and direct the voter to proceed to the Voter Check-In Table.
- The Voter will present an approved form of identification (I.D.) to the Inspector and sign in on the Voter Check-In System.
- Voters who cannot present an approved form of I.D. will be provided an opportunity to vote by provisional process.
- The Inspector at the Voter Check-In System will issue the voter their paper ballot.
- A voter who chooses to mark the ballot manually will go into a privacy booth and mark the ballot with a pen provided then place it into the Ballot Counting System (BCS).
- If a voter has requested to use the Accessible Voting System (AVS), the Clerk must issue the AVS Blank ballot card. Once the voter has marked their ballot using the AVS, they will be directed to place it into the Ballot Counting System (BCS).
- The Election Day polling place closes at 7:00 p.m. or after the last voter in line at 7:00 p.m. has cast their ballot
PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIAL STANDARDS OATH

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, sex or national origin.

I, __________________________________________________, understand that Precinct Election Officials are required to lift and assemble voting booths, which weigh 19 pounds each. Precinct Election Officials are required to have good hearing and good eyesight (with/without glasses). If chosen, I am required to arrive at my assigned polling location five minutes earlier than my designated time and remain inside until dismissed by the Clerk. The only exceptions made are for eating, restroom breaks and outside smoking breaks when permitted, and only with the Clerk’s permission.

I, __________________________________________________, understand that I must be able to deal efficiently, courteously and patiently with both the public and my co-workers. Prior to each election, I will be required, pursuant to Florida Statutes, to attend a training class for which I will be paid an additional amount if I do work on Election Day.

I, __________________________________________________, understand that as an election worker I represent the Bay County Supervisor of Elections office, therefore I will be held accountable for my actions in the public and on social media. Any inappropriate or insensitive behavior will warrant for dismissal.

1. Are you a retiree from any Florida State administrative retirement system? 
   ____Yes  ____No

2. If your spouse is also a Precinct Election Official, do you have to work at the same precinct? 
   ____Yes  ____No

3. If necessary, will you work outside of your home precinct?  ____Yes  ____No

4. Will you serve as an alternate Precinct Election Official (attend training class and be on standby for a work assignment as openings occur)?  ____Yes  ____No

5. Do you see yourself as a natural leader?  ____Yes  ____No

6. Are you interested in working Early Voting?  ____Yes  ____No

7. Are you Bilingual?  ____Yes  ____No  If yes, what language(s)?  _____________________
Multiple Choice:
Please circle the ONE valid answer.

1. Who is in charge at the precinct?
   a. Deputy
   b. Inspector
   c. Clerk
   d. Assistant Clerk

2. Who is responsible for maintaining good order at the polling place?
   a. Inspector
   b. Deputy
   c. Assistant Clerk
   d. Clerk

3. Who is responsible for the Accessible Voting System duties at the polling place?
   a. Both Clerk and Assistant Clerks
   b. Deputy
   c. Clerk
   d. Assistant Clerk

4. Who is responsible for verifying the voter’s I.D. and signature?
   a. Deputy
   b. Clerk
   c. Inspector at Voter Check In System

5. Who is responsible for issuing them a paper ballot?
   a. Deputy
   b. Inspector at Ballot Issue Table
   c. Clerk
   d. Assistant Clerk

6. When does the Election Day polling place open?
   a. 5:45 a.m.
   b. Whenever the precinct is set up and ready
   c. 7 a.m.
   d. 7 p.m.

7. When does the Election Day polling place close?
   a. 7 a.m.
   b. 7 p.m. or after the last Voter has cast their ballot.
   c. If there has been 2 hours since a Voter has voted.
   d. 6 p.m.
8. When do PEO’s have to show up at their assigned precinct?
   a. No later than 6:15 a.m.
   b. No later than 7 a.m.
   c. Depends on which shift you work
   d. No later than 8 p.m.

9. When do PEO’s begin breaking down the polling place?
   a. 7 p.m.
   b. As directed by the Clerk, after the last voter has voted
   c. 9 p.m.
   d. When the Deputy says so

10. Who is the top election authority in Bay County for all Election Boards?
    a. Mark Andersen, Supervisor of Elections
    b. Clerk
    c. Deputy
    d. All of the above

**True and False:**

11. PEO’s can leave the precinct during the day for lunch and come back.
    a. True
    b. False

12. PEO’s must have excellent customer service skills.
    a. True
    b. False

13. PEO’s don’t get paid, they work as volunteers.
    a. True
    b. False

14. PEO’s must attend training prior to every election.
    a. True
    b. False

15. The Accessible Voting System can only be used by people with disabilities.
    a. True
    b. False

16. PEOs must complete Sensitivity and Conflict Resolution Training each election cycle.
    a. True
    b. False