

Role Play Script

Election Day Registration: Identification

Bea, an elderly woman approaches Election Day Registration Clerk.

Clerk

Please complete the card and sign. Once you have completed the card, I will need to see a document providing proof of residence. If this document does not have your picture, I will also need to see a picture identification card.

Bea

I don't have a driver's license or a social security card. I've brought my electric bill which has my address and name along with my 70th wedding anniversary announcement that was in the paper two years ago.

Clerk

I'll ask the Chief Judge if your documents will be sufficient to register at the polls.

Chief Judge

Due to the age of the elector it is accepted that she does not have neither a driver's license or has never applied for a social security card. The announcement from the newspaper has her picture and she is definitely identified in the article. Her documents are accepted.

Role Play Script

Election Day Registration: Proof of Residence.

Mike approaches the Election Day Registration Clerk.

Clerk

Please complete the card and sign. Once you have completed the card, I will need to see a document providing proof of residence. If this document does not have your picture, I will also need to see a picture identification card.

Mike

I just moved to Idaho a month or so ago and I don't have a document with my name and new address. I'm living with relatives and I receive no mail at this address.

Clerk

Idaho is one of 6 states that allow individuals to register and vote on Election Day. State law requires we verify your residence and identification to register you on Election Day.

Mike

I'm going back to California. (Leaves disgusted.)

Role Play Script

First Time Mail Registrants: Asking for ID at the Polls.

Congressman Bob approaches poll book clerk.

Clerk

Well hello Bob, here to vote today? Just show me a document with your name and address as it appears in the poll book and we'll get you a ballot.

Congressman Bob

I don't even have my wallet on me; I have no proof of my ID or residence address. But look, there is my name and address in the poll book and I've voted here for the last 10 years, I've never been asked for ID before.

Clerk

Sorry the new HAVA law you boys passed requires that you provide ID before I can allow you to vote. See that placard on the wall regarding Mail in Registrants?

Congressman Bob

Wait a minute it says if I'm a first time voter and my registration was by mail. Well I'm not a first time voter and I walked up to the counter at the clerk's office and registered.

Chief Judge

Sorry for the inconvenience, I must remind the poll book clerk that not everyone must provide ID at the polls, only those voters where a notation on the poll book requires the voter to provide proof of ID.

Role Play Script

Election Day Registration: New Residence

Rancher Dave approaches Poll Book Clerk.

Clerk

Hello Rancher Dave, I'm glad you were in town so you could come in and vote. I heard that you and Kathy bought the Thompson Ranch down the road, cross the river.

Rancher Dave

Yep.

Poll Book Clerk

Well, it doesn't appear that you have registered at your new residence. The Thompson Ranch is in this precinct, you'll need to re-register. Just go on over there to the registration clerk.

Dave approaches Election Day Registration clerk and proceeds to register and returns to poll book clerk and hands the clerk his registration card.

Poll Book Clerk

You filled that out pretty quick Dave. Let me check to insure residence has been verified. I see that the registration card is in order and has been stamped "Residence Verified". I'll enter "Rancher Dave" in the back of the poll book and write EDR in remarks column. Please sign the poll book Rancher Dave.

Dave signs election record poll book.

Poll Book Clerk

Get your ballot from the Issuing Clerk Rancher Dave. Don't say much do ya?

Rancher Dave

Nope.

Role Play Script

Election Day Registration: Name not in Poll Book

Marion Librarian approaches poll book clerk.

Marion

My name is Marion Librarian and I live at 34 N 8th Street.

Clerk

Marion Librarian I don't find your name in the poll book.

Marion

Well that can't be, I moved and re-registered at the city election last November.

Clerk

I'm sorry your name does not appear on the poll book and your address is certainly in this precinct.

The Clerk dials an invisible phone

Clerk

I'm calling the clerk's office to see if they have a registration card on file. They do. I apologize, but for some reason your name was left off the poll book. I'll enter your name right here. Please sign next to your name Marion Librarian and Clark Clerk here will issue you your ballot.

Role Play Script

Ballot Box: Procedure

Bob Big Mouth approaches the receiving clerk.

Bob hands ballot to the clerk and the clerk deposits the ballot into the locked ballot box.

Bob

Ah nuts, hey I need my ballot back, I made a mistake.

Clerk

I'm sorry but once the ballot has been placed in the ballot box I cannot open it to retrieve the ballot.

Bob

I made a mistake! I want to change my vote! That's my right as a citizen. I get a second chance.

Clerk

I am sorry but once the ballot box is locked, it can not be opened.

Bob

I'll call the County Clerk's office; you'll lose your job!

Clerk

That would be fine, here's the number.

Role Play Script

Assistance: Marking a Ballot

Mr. Smith enters the polling place with his Seeing Eye dog.

Chief Judge

Good afternoon I am the chief judge. Are you a registered voter?

Mr. Smith

Yes I am. I need assistance in marking my ballot.

Chief Judge

Certainly, you may choose anyone you like to assist you or I will be happy to.

Mr. Smith

Is there a representative of the Democratic Party in the polling place?

Chief Judge

Yes, Mrs. Jones is serving as a challenger today.

Mr. Smith

I would really prefer that she assist me in marking the ballot.

Chief Judge

Mrs. Jones would you assist Mr. Smith with his ballot?

Mrs. Jones

Certainly.

Clerk issues Mr. Smith a ballot. Mr. Smith and Mrs. Jones enter a voting booth and she marks the ballot according to his wishes. The Clerk enters "Assistance" in the Remarks column.

Role Play Script

Lost Election Stamp: Procedure

Gail, the Issuing Clerk, realizes the official ballot stamp is missing.

Gail

Oh dear, the official ballot stamp is missing, and here comes a voter that needs their ballot stamped.

Voter approaches Gail.

Chief Judge

If the official ballot stamp is lost, hand write “Stamped” in the appropriate place on the ballot.

Gail

I’ll hand write “Stamped” and here is your ballot.

Voter

Thank you

What is the appropriate place to write “Stamped” for your ballot type?

Role Play Script

Voter Information: Secrecy of a vote.

Patty approaches the poll book clerk.

Patty

Has John Brown voted yet today?

Poll Book Clerk

I'm sorry I can not give out that information.

Patty

Why not, he's my neighbor?

Poll Book Clerk

No judge or clerk can communicate to anyone any information as to the name or number on the poll book of any elector who has not applied for a ballot, or who has not voted at the polling place.

Patty

Not even my neighbor, I just want to find out if he has voted?

Poll Book Clerk

Not even your neighbor.

Role Play Script

Spoiled Ballot: Procedure

Dolly Madison approaches the Issuing Clerk.

Dolly

Hello, I'm so sorry; I was having a donut got a little frosting on my ballot. I tried wiping it off and made a real mess. Could I please have a new ballot.

Clerk

Yes, fold your ballot so I am not able to see the markings and I'll spoil it and issue you another ballot.

Dolly

Oh this soiled ballot is such a mess, I'll just stick the whole thing in my purse.

Clerk

I can not issue you a new ballot until you return the old soiled spoiled ballot.

Dolly hands the soiled ballot to the clerk.

Clerk

I will write "spoiled" on the soiled ballot and place the spoiled soiled ballot in the "Spoiled" ballot envelope, issue another fresh, clean ballot, enter a new sequence number, and write "Spoiled Ballot-Another Issued" in the remarks column.

Dolly

I'll return to the voting booth to try again.

Role Play Script

Oath of Challenged Person: Procedure

A Lady approaches the Poll Book Clerk

Lady

Good Morning. I'd like to vote.

Clerk

Good morning. There's a notation here in the Remarks column of the Poll Book by your name. Charley the Challenger says you've moved

Lady

I've temporarily moved because of my business but I plan to return again soon to this county. I still consider this address as my permanent residence.

Clerk

But you have moved. Before I can issue a ballot, I must read you the qualifications of an elector. If you still feel that you are a qualified elector in this precinct, you may sign an Oath of a Challenged Person and I will be glad to issue you a ballot.

Clerk reads the Oath of Challenged Person.

Lady

I would like to sign the Oath and vote.

Lady signs the Oath of a Challenged Person.

Clerk

Thank you now if you would sign the poll book next to your name, I will issue a ballot and record "Sworn" in the Poll Book. Hope you move back soon.

Role Play Script

Curbside Voting: Procedure.

Mr. Nice approaches the poll book clerk

Mr. Nice

Hello, my wife has a broken foot and the Doctor told her not to put any weight on it until after the election and she would like to vote. She's out in the car.

Clerk

I can take a ballot out to the parking lot.

Mr. Nice

Someone has parked in the handicapped parking place so the car is half way down the block.

Clerk

Well I'll take Mrs. Nice a ballot. I'll take the poll book page on which her name appears, a ballot, a pen for her to sign the poll book, a marking device, and a ballot secrecy envelope. When Mrs. Nice has marked her ballot in a secret manner, I will bring it back and deposit it in the ballot box for her and the Receiving Clerk will proclaim that Mrs. Nice has voted.

Mr. Nice

That would be nice.

Role Play Script

The AutoMARK.

A curious bystander approaches the AutoMARK

Bystander

What's that, an electronic voting machine?

Chief Judge

That's a voter assist terminal called an AutoMARK, for voters requiring assistance and visually impaired voters.

Bystander

What does it do?

Chief Judge

It marks an optical scan ballot, the voter uses a touch screen or Braille coded buttons to enter their choices.

Bystander

What if someone is blind, like me when I forget my glasses?

Chief Judge

It displays a magnified ballot on the screen. There is also an audio ballot the voter can listen to through headphones and make their choices with the key pad.

Bystander

What if they make a mistake and want to change their vote?

Chief Judge

They can change their vote anytime they wish before the ballot is marked and printed. There is also a review screen displayed before the ballot is printed that allows the voter to check their ballot again before it is printed and returned.

Bystander

How do they know the machine printed their votes correctly?

Chief Judge

The voter can put the printed ballot back into the voter assist terminal and the machine will read their choices back and also display them on the screen so they can check.

Bystander

Can votes get lost in the machine?

Chief Judge

No votes are stored in the machine and it doesn't count votes. The device just helps voters mark a ballot, that's why it's called the AutoMARK.

Bystander

Could I try it, I forgot my glasses?

Chief Judge

Sure. Use the zoom feature to make the print larger.