

Policy Number: BRE – 803

**Gwinnett County
Board of Registrations and Elections
Board Policy File**

Policy Title: **Media Policy**

Version: **2022-01, Amending and replacing policy revised 2020**

Effective Date: **August 17, 2022**

I. Authority:

The Gwinnett County Board of Registrations and Elections (Board) is empowered with all the powers and duties relating to the registration of voters as well as the conduct of elections as election superintendent. 1988 Ga. Laws p. 4296 (Section 9 and Section 11(b))

II. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish standards for media access and activities during elections.

III. Applicability and Scope

Journalists are granted reasonable access to polling locations, advance voting locations, and the Voter Registrations and Elections Office during elections. However, the presence or activities of journalists must not interfere with the responsibilities and tasks of election officials, or the voters throughout the voting process. Additionally, they may not intimidate voters or jeopardize the secrecy of a voter's ballot.

IV. Related Documents and References:

- A. O.C.G.A. 21-2-413
- B. O.C.G.A. 21-2-414

V. Policy

- A. For all images

1. Ballot Marking Devices (BMD), Printers, and Scanners: Images may be made of voters in the process of voting and of BMD voting units, printers, and scanners. The photographic/recording device must be directed toward the back or side of the unit. The face of the unit and the face of the printed ballot shall not be captured, thereby ensuring the privacy of the ballot and integrity of the voting process.
2. Provisional Voting Booths: Images may be made of voters in the process of voting and of provisional voting booths. The photographic/recording device must be directed toward the back or side of the booth. The face of the printed ballot shall not be captured, thereby ensuring the privacy of the ballot and integrity of the voting process.
3. Absentee by Mail Ballots: Images may be made of staff members and poll officials opening, sorting, batching, and scanning ballots. The face of the printed ballot shall not be captured nor should any identifying information on the envelope, thereby ensuring the privacy of the ballot and integrity of the voting process.
4. Vote Review Panel and Duplicating Teams: Images may be made of staff members and panelists reviewing and duplicating ballots. The face of the computer monitor, and the face of the printed ballot shall not be captured, thereby ensuring the privacy of the ballot and the integrity of the voting process.
5. Election Central: Images may be made of staff members and technicians conducting activities in Election Central. The face of the computer monitor, and the face of the printed ballot shall not be captured, thereby ensuring the privacy of the ballot and the integrity of the voting process.

B. Additional Requirements:

1. Any person taking photos or videos, or assisting with the same, shall not be permitted within the enclosed space which is defined as the area no less than six feet of the ballot box or voting units. This area is designated by the Poll Manager of each polling location and advance voting location.
2. Any person taking photos or videos or assisting with the same shall not be permitted within the defined area for opening, sorting, batching, reviewing, and duplicating any Absentee by Mail or Provisional Ballots. This area may vary but will be no less than six feet.
3. Any person taking photos or videos or assisting with the same shall not be permitted into Election Central; the vote tabulation room.

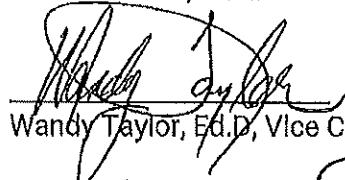
4. No videography or photography shall be permitted of any supplemental electors list, provisional electors list, electronic electors list or the use of any supplemental electors list, provisional electors list or electronic electors list.
5. Voters shall not be questioned regarding their ballot choices within 150 feet of the outer edge of the building in which voting is taking place and within 25 feet of the last voter standing in line to vote. All exit polling must be conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. 21-2-414.
6. No photographic or audio records may be made of any security seal numbers or serial numbers on the BMD voting units, Scanners, Printers or Poll Pad units in any manner.

Approved, this 17th day of August, 2022.
BOARD OF REGISTRATIONS AND ELECTIONS
OF GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA

By:

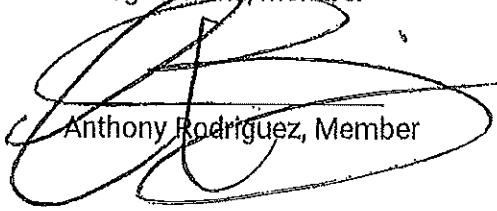
Alice O'Lenick 8/17/22

Alice O'Lenick, Chair


Wandy Taylor, Ed.D, Vice Chair


Stephen W. Day, Member


George Awuku, Member


Anthony Rodriguez, Member