

POLLING PLACE SAFETY AWARENESS

Arriving at the location

- Visually scan the parking lot and areas around the location for signs of forced entry, strangers loitering nearby, or any other signs of unwanted activity.
- Trust your intuition. Does something seem out of place, strange or out of the ordinary?
- Decide if it appears safe to enter. If not, don't. Notify the Inspector and/or the Registrar of Voters Office and share your concerns or observations. Do not hesitate to contact local law enforcement or 911 if you feel it's necessary.

Entering the Location/Throughout the day:

- Wear your name badge at all times. This will make it much easier to identify between poll workers and observers or voters.
- Notify the Inspector and/or the Registrar of Voters Office if you observe any concerning conditions or behavior, such as individuals:
 - Asking obviously odd or inappropriate questions
 - Acting unusually frustrated
 - Breaking the "social contract"
 - Making threats of violence or actual violent acts
- Do not hesitate to contact local law enforcement or 911 if you feel it's necessary.

Tips for dealing with frustrated individuals

- Try to remain calm; stay professional with the individual.
- Notify the Inspector or the Registrar of Voters Office if the behavior continues or escalates.
- If you are comfortable, Inform the individual that their behavior is inappropriate.
- Be prepared to walk away from the individual.
- Do not hesitate to contact local law enforcement or 911 if you feel it's necessary.
- Strength in numbers – don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Depending on the severity of the situation, see if you can barricade or lock doors.

Leaving the Location

- Just like when you arrived at work for the day, visually scan the area for signs of any unwanted individuals or activity.
- Walk with "Purpose." Have your keys in your hand and your cell phone ready. Try not to carry anything unless it's necessary to do so.
- If possible, walk with other poll workers.
- If you observe any unwanted or concerning activity, do not hesitate to return to the location
- Trust your intuition. Does something seem out of place, strange or out of the ordinary? Do not hesitate to contact local law enforcement or 911 if you feel it's necessary.