Voter Guide

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA 2018



Mark S. Earley
Supervisor of Elections

2990-1 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 606-8683 • LeonVotes.org Vote@LeonCountyFL.gov



To provide outstanding voter services and accessible elections in Leon County with integrity, transparency and accuracy.

2018 Election Dates

Primary Election: August 28th

July 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

■ = Registration Deadline

■ = Early Voting Dates

= Election Day

General Election: November 6th

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	THU	FRI	SAT	
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

= Registration Deadline

■ = Early Voting Dates

= Election Day

Table of Contents

A Message from Mark S. Earley, Supervisor of Elections2
Offices Up For Election
Voter's Bill of Rights/Voter's Responsibilities
Who Can Register to Vote?
3 Ways to Register
Voter Information Changes 7
3 Ways to Vote
Voting In Person
Voting By Mail 10
Early Voting 12
Election Day Voting
What to Expect At the Polls 12
Voting Machines 15
Provisional Ballots 16
Poll Workers 17
Florida's Closed Primary Elections 18
Registering With Special Circumstances 19
Community Involvement 20
Leon County Election Center 22



A Message from Mark S. Earley, Supervisor of Elections



Dear Leon County Voter,

I'm Mark Earley, Leon County Supervisor of Elections. Although I am new to the position of Supervisor, I have a long history working for the voters of Leon County. I have a passion for democracy and hold dear the trust you place in this office every time you vote.

In 2018, you will be making many crucial decisions about the future of your government which will directly impact your lives. U.S. Congressional seats, Governor and other state level contests,

many Leon County and City of Tallahassee contests, state constitutional amendments, and even county and city charter referenda will be decided through your vote.

What you may not realize is that many of these contests will be decided before the November General Election. The <u>Primary Election on August 28th</u> features many partisan and nonpartisan local contests. Often, the winners of a primary contest gather enough votes or face no real opposition in the general election; so if you skip the primary, you miss out on some of these choices completely. Plus, voter turnout in primaries tends to be much lower than in general elections, giving your vote more weight in a primary. So I urge you to come out and <u>Vote Local on August 28th</u>. Your vote can truly make a difference.

Speaking of making a difference, Leon County has led the way in elections integrity, transparency, and security for many years:

- We recently upgraded our paper based voting system to one of the most modern and secure systems available, to ensure your votes are not compromised.
- We designed the most comprehensive planning and tracking software in the elections industry to ensure the critical components of elections are always accounted for and secure.
- After years of design and testing, we recently deployed the nation's first
 post-election auditing system that transparently verifies 100% of your choices on
 every ballot in every election. This technology is game changing and gives you the
 assurance that Leon County's election results are accurate and verifiable.

Why do we do all of this? Because elections integrity is the bedrock of our nation, and as your Supervisor of Elections, it is my job is to provide outstanding voter services and secure elections you can trust.

Mark S. Earley

Supervisor of Elections – Leon County



BE VOCAL, VOTE LOCAL

As a Leon County elector, voting is critical when it comes to taking part in governing your own community. Equally important is the willingness of engaged citizens to take steps to run for office. Below is a list of the offices up for election in 2018. Be a part of the decision making process. Be vocal, vote local. **#VoteLocal** And remember, if you don't vote you can't win. **#Vote2Win**

OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION IN 2018

All offices listed, if contested, will be on a 2018 ballot in Leon County. There is a potential for this list to change due to circumstances outside of the regular election schedule.

County and School Board

County Commission Districts 1, 3 and 5, At Large Group 2 School Board Districts 1, 3 and 5

City of Tallahassee

Mayor City Commission Seats 3 and 5

County Judge

Seats 1, 3 and 4

Special Districts

Leon Soil & Water Conservation (ORS&WC) District Supervisor, Districts 2 and 4 Capital Regional Community Development District Supervisor, Seats 1, 3 and 5 Piney-Z Community Development District Supervisor, Seats 1, 3 and 5

State

Governor & Lt. Governor Attorney General Commissioner of Agriculture Chief Financial Officer Florida Legislature, House of Representatives Districts 7, 8 and 9

Federal

United States Senator United States House of Representatives, Districts 2 and 5

Judicial

Justice of Supreme Court of Florida (merit retention) Judge, 1st District Court of Appeal (merit retention) 2nd Judicial Circuit, Groups 1, 2, 3 and 12



CONTACT US!

Phone (850) 606-8683

Fax (850) 606-8601

Web LeonVotes.org

Email Vote@LeonCountyFL.gov

Mail PO Box 7357
Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357





Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

- 1. Vote and have her or his vote accurately counted.
- 2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
- **3.** Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
- **4.** Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
- **5.** An explanation if her or his registration or identity is in question.

- **6.** If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a Provisional Ballot.
- 7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from Elections Officers.
- **8.** Vote free from coercion or intimidation by Elections Officers or any other person.
- **9.** Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

DSDE 20



Each registered voter in this state should:

- 1. Familiarize herself or himself with the candidates and issues.
- 2. Maintain a current address with the Supervisor of Elections.
- 3. Know the location of her or his polling place and its hours of operation.
- **4.** Bring proper identification to the polling station.
- Familiarize herself or himself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.

- **6.** Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
- **7.** Respect the privacy of other voters.
- 8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
- 9. Ask questions, if needed.
- 10. Make sure that her or his completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

DSDE 21



Am I eligible to register to vote in Leon County, Florida?

You must:

- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Be a Florida resident and live in Leon County
- Be 18 years old (you may pre-register at 16 or 17)
- Not currently be adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting in Florida or any other state
- Not have been convicted of a felony in Florida, or in any other state, without your civil rights having been restored

Restoration of Civil Rights

A person who has been convicted of a felony by any court is eligible to register to vote in Florida <u>once their voting rights</u> are restored.

Search or apply for your Restoration of Civil Rights certificate through the Florida Commission on Offender Review, Office of Executive Clemency.

Online: www.fcor.state.fl.us

Phone: 1-800-435-8286 or (850) 488-2952

Fax: (850) 488-0695

Mail: 4070 Esplanade Way

Tallahassee, FL 32399-2450



If you qualify to register to vote in Florida, you must complete a Florida Voter Registration Application and return it to the Leon County Supervisor of Elections office 29 days before an election.



Online Voter Registration



Now available! Register to vote online or update important voter information such as your name, address or political party affiliation. Visit **LeonVotes.org** for online resources.



Register In Person



- Supervisor of Elections Office and Registration Branch Sites
 For a complete list of Branch Sites visit our website

 LeonVotes.org or call (850) 606-8683.
- DHSMV/Tax Collector
- Public Assistance Offices

AND Florida Voter Registration Application forms are available at:

- Public Library Branches
- Offices that serve persons with disabilities / Ability 1st
- Public Education Institutions



Register By Mail



Call our office at (850) 606-8683 to have a Florida Voter Registration Application form mailed to you. Or, visit **LeonVotes.org** to download and print the form. Simply complete, sign and mail the form to:

Supervisor of Elections – Leon County PO Box 7357, Tallahassee FL 32314-7357



Have you moved since you last voted? Update your voter information!

Below are options for updating your voter information.

Address Change – Go to **LeonVotes.org**, call our office, complete a Florida Voter Registration Application, or provide a signed written notice that includes your date of birth and signature.

Party Change – Must be completed 29 days prior to a Primary Election to take effect. Complete a Florida Voter Registration Application form, or provide a signed written notice that includes your date of birth and signature.

Name Change – Complete a Florida Voter Registration Application.

Signature Change / Update – Complete a Florida Voter Registration Application.

Voter Information Cards are mailed routinely to confirm new registrations, voter updates, or changes in polling locations.



CONTACT US!

Phone (850) 606-8683



Fax (850) 606-8601

Web LeonVotes.org

Email Vote@LeonCountyFL.gov



Mail PO Box 7357

Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357

 δ



3 Ways to Vote



Contact our office by phone, online or by mail to request



your Vote By Mail Ballot before Election Day.

Vote Early

Cast your ballot at any of our convenient locations before



Election Day. Go to **LeonVotes.org** to see a list of Early Voting sites in Leon County.

3 Vote at Your Precinct

Election Day is your **last chance to vote!**



We must have your current address to direct you to your assigned polling place.

Update your address before Election Day!

Visit LeonVotes.org or call (850) 606-8683.

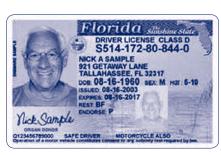
Voting In Person

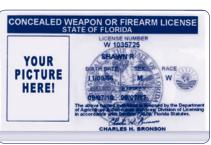
In person voting in Florida requires a valid ID containing your photo and signature. The photo and signature may come from a combination of IDs from the following list:

- Florida Driver's License
- Florida Identification Card
- US Passport
- Debit or Credit Card
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Veteran Health ID issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
- Concealed Weapon / Firearm License issued pursuant to 790.06, F.S.
- Employee ID issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the Federal

Government, the State, a county or a municipality

Your Voter Information Card <u>does not count</u> as valid ID to vote. If you are not able to produce proper ID, you will be required to vote a Provisional Ballot.









Over 63,000 returned and tabulated in 2016!

Vote By Mail Ballots

A Mail Ballot may be requested anytime up to the legal deadline of 6 days before an election. This may be done in person, by mail, by telephone, or online.

Requesting a Mail Ballot is Easy!

Online Go to **LeonVotes.org**, click the Vote by Mail button, fill in and submit the request form online 24/7!

Telephone Call (850) 606-8683 to request by telephone

Mail Send your request form to:
Supervisor of Elections
PO Box 7357

Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357

Please note that Mail Ballots cannot be forwarded by the Post Office. 101.62, F.S. If any mail is returned as undeliverable, your future ballot requests will be canceled.

Voters who have returned an unsigned Mail Ballot have until 5 p.m. on the day before an election to provide ID and sign a Mail Ballot Affidavit to correct the unsigned ballot.



Track Your Ballot

Want to know if we received your voted Mail Ballot? Check your voter info at **LeonVotes.org**!





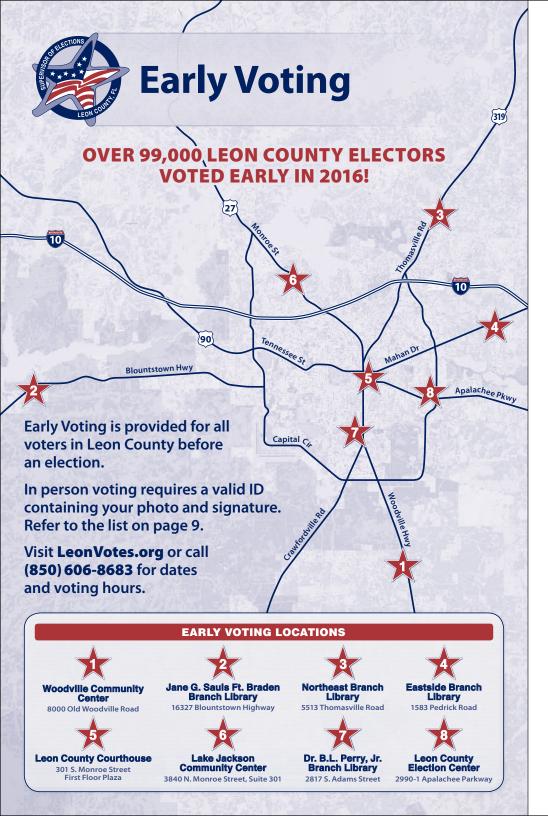


Has your signature changed since you first registered to vote?



If so, you need to update your signature with our office or we may not be able to accept your ballot.

Call us to be mailed a Florida Voter Registration Application or print one from our website, **LeonVotes.org**, then complete, sign, and mail it back to us.



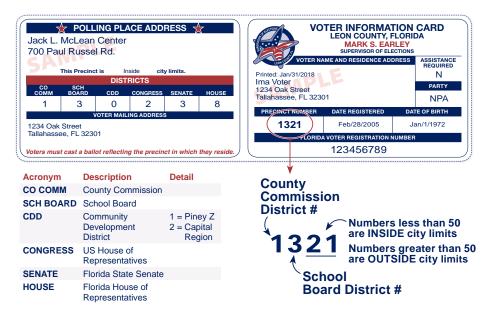


Voting should be a quick, satisfying experience if you follow a few key steps on or before Election Day.

Find Your Precinct

On Election Day you are required to vote in the precinct where you live. Your voter information card shows shows your precinct number, polling place, and voting district details. If you do not have your card, visit **LeonVotes.org** or call our office to find your precinct. Replacement cards are available upon your request.

Review Your Voter Information Card



Avoid The Rush

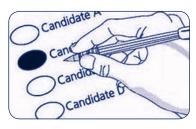
Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The busiest voting times happen right at the opening and closing of the polls. We suggest you vote between 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to avoid long lines.

What to Expect At the Polls

When you arrive at your precinct, a poll worker will ask to see your picture and signature ID, find your name in the precinct register (an electronic poll book), and ask you to sign for receipt of your ballot.



Changes to your name, address or political party affiliation since the last election should be updated with the Supervisor of Elections Office prior to Election Day. If you do not show valid **photo and signature ID**, you must vote a Provisional Ballot. Our poll workers are ready to assist you with this process.





To vote, completely fill in the oval

oval

to the left of the candidate

or issue of your choice. For a write-in candidate, fill in the oval to the left and write the name on the line provided.

Review your ballot for accuracy. If you find you have made an error, do not place your ballot into the voting machine. Instead, ask a poll worker for assistance.



All precincts are equipped with optical scan voting devices.
Americans with Disabilities
Act (ADA) compliant voting devices are available for those voters with special needs.
You must alert the poll worker when you sign in to vote if you



wish to vote using the ADA compliant voting device.

Optical Scan

The optical scan voting device accepts a paper ballot with ovals filled in by the voter.

- Voters can only cast one ballot in any election.
- When voting in person, use the marker provided in the privacy booth.
- When voting by mail, use blue or black ink that will not bleed through your paper ballot.
 <u>Do not</u> use a heavily inked, permanent marker.

Accessible Voting

The ADA compliant voting device has the ability to enlarge font size, play an audio ballot, and work with a manual device or your sip and puff device.

- Before you cast your ballot, be sure your ballot reflects your choices.
- Once your ballot is cast, you cannot receive another ballot in that election.



A **Provisional Ballot** is a time-saving tool for the voter when their eligibility to vote is uncertain. It allows the Supervisor of Elections Office to research the matter and present any evidence to Leon County's Canvassing Board.

Anyone who votes a Provisional Ballot has until 5 p.m. on the second day following the election to present evidence of their eligibility.

The Canvassing Board decides if the Provisional Ballot will be counted when it meets on the third day following the election. **Most Provisional Ballots are counted.**

Provisional ballots are often issued when:

- The voter did not provide valid photo and signature identification.
- The voter's name was not found in the precinct register (an electronic poll book) on Election Day.

Provisional ballots are often not counted when:

- The voter votes in the wrong precinct on Election Day.
- The voter did not register 29 days before the election.

Voters can track the status of their Provisional Ballot online at LeonVotes.org.



Poll Workers

Top 5 Reasons to be a

POLL WORKER

- You'll work side by side with your neighbors and meet new people.
- You'll play a vital role in the democratic process.
- Your community needs you. Leon County must recruit 1,500 poll workers this year for our elections to run smoothly.
- 2 It's a great opportunity to help people, serve your community and have fun doing it!

And the number one reason to be a Poll Worker...

You get paid to do a good thing!

Sign up to be a poll worker today!

Your community needs more people like you to work at the polls on Election Day. In fact, Florida must recruit and train thousands of poll workers in communities across the state every election year. You can help.

The job isn't complicated and anyone who has worked at the polls will tell you it's one of the most rewarding ways to help your community.

Call (850) 606-8683 or visit our website at LeonVotes.org.







You are not required to register with a political party; however, Florida is a closed primary state. That means you may only vote in a partisan contest in a Primary Election if you are a registered member of that political party.

Political party affiliation changes must be submitted 29 days prior to the Primary Election.

In the August 28th Primary Election, there are many non-partisan offices up for election. Voters, regardless of political party affiliation, may vote in these contests when they appear on the ballot.

When does a Universal Primary contest occur?

A Universal Primary contest occurs when two candidates of the same political party affiliation appear on the Primary Election ballot and face no opposition in the General Election. In a Universal Primary contest, all eligible voters, regardless of political party affiliation, may participate.

In a General Election, voters may select the candidate of their choice regardless of political party affiliation.



Homeless Residing in Leon County

If you are homeless you may register to vote using a shelter address as your residence, and if you have a place where you receive your mail, that address should be used as your mailing address.

U.S. Military / U.S. Citizens Overseas

If you are U.S. military or a U.S. citizen residing overseas, more detailed voter registration information can be obtained at www.FVAP.gov.

You may also view information about Voting By Mail on our website: **LeonVotes.org**, or call our office at **(850) 606-8683**.

College Students Residing in Leon County

If you reside in Leon County for school you are eligible to register to vote here. This may be the most convenient option considering that many voting precincts are located on or near our local campuses. If you choose to maintain your voter registration at your parent's residence, you must request a Mail Ballot from that Florida county or State jurisdiction.

This information is subject to change by Legislative Action. Updates will be posted on our website **LeonVotes.org**.









You can request any of the services below using the Community Involvement Request form online at LeonVotes.org.

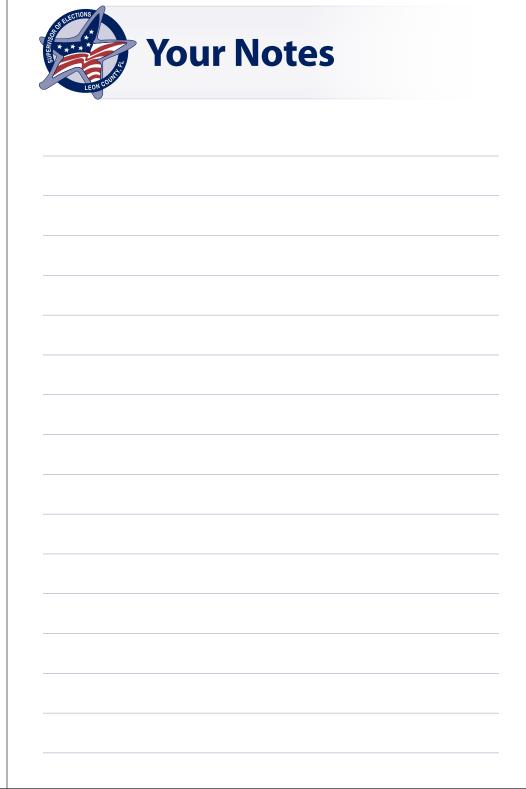
Email Vote@LeonCountyFl.gov or call (850) 606-8683 for more information about these services.

Request a Speaker – The Supervisor of Elections or staff from the Elections Office will speak to your class, club, organization or group about the election process and voting.

Invite The Elections Office To Your Event – A representative from the Supervisor of Elections Office will set up a voter registration table at your event.

Student Government Elections – The Elections Office offers one no-cost election per year to any school in Leon County as a means of voter education. Participating schools & students may vote on the candidate of their choice using official ballots and voting machines.

Voter Registration / Education Program – Election staff provides voter registration and education services to area high schools, Tallahassee Community College, Florida State University and Florida A&M University. Students who are age 16 or older can get pre-registered or registered to vote.





Leon County Election Center



Capital Cir

Company

Visit our new location for:

- Voter Services
- Early Voting
- Poll Worker Training
- Administrative Services

(850) 606-8683 · LeonVotes.org

Skip the drive: Register to vote or update your voter information online 24/7! LeonVotes.org/OVR





@LeonVotes



LeonVotes.org