

Hernando Votes

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Main Office:

20 N Main St. Rm 165
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-754-4125
8:00 am • 5:00 pm
Monday • Friday

Spring Hill Office:

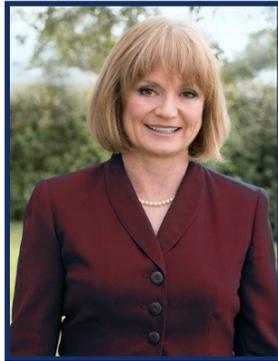
West Side Gov't Center
7443 Forest Oaks Blvd.
Spring Hill, FL 34606
352-754-4125
8:00 am • 4:30 pm
Monday • Friday



Shirley Anderson

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

April 2017



I was honored to be sworn in for my second term as your Supervisor of Elections on January 3rd. I joined my fellow constitutional officers and took the solemn oath to support, protect and defend the Constitution. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you- the residents of Hernando County!

2017 is an off-election year; however that does not mean that we have slowed down. Now that we have caught up and cleaned up from the 2016 General Election cycle we are moving forward with numerous projects that my staff will highlight in this newsletter. This will give you an inside look at your Elections Team and the important role each of them play daily in our office.

The Florida Legislature is in Session and here are several election bills to monitor:

Passage of statutory language which will allow the implementation of ERIC (Election Registration Information Center) in Florida. ERIC is a non-profit, information sharing group that uses data matches between states to help improve the accuracy of voter rolls. ERIC has identified more than a million voters who are registered in more than one state. This would be an additional measure to insure we have accurate voter rolls.

Protecting your right to privacy is of utmost importance; however none can be more important that protecting the privacy of minors. HB445 and SB 862 would exempt 16 and 17 year olds who pre-register personal information from public record access.

Another area of interest is the Constitutional Review Commission. This commission meets every twenty years for the purpose of reviewing the state constitution and proposing changes for voter consideration. It is comprised of 37 members who have been appointed by the Governor, the House Speaker, Senate President and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The Attorney General also serves as a member. To learn more about this commission and how to get involved please visit www.revisefl.com

Shirley Anderson

Hernando County Supervisor of Elections

“It is the mission of the Supervisor of Elections office to ensure the integrity of the electoral process and empower each voter through continuous education.”

Elections Staff



Denise LaVancher

**Chief Deputy, Human Resources, Finance,
Office Manager, Vote-By-Mail Coordinator**

2016 was our best year yet for Vote-By-Mail. We increased our Vote-By-Mail ballot requests by **18%** from the 2014 Election cycle. That is fantastic! During this off election year we have plenty of projects going on. Currently we are developing the 2018 fiscal year budget while allocating potential funds toward purchasing new electronic poll books. Additionally, we are taking advantage of opportunities to *professionally develop* staff in areas crucial to their positions. Many of our staff members are working toward their **Florida Certified Elections Professional**

“Here in Hernando County we are always working diligently to *educate* and *inform* our voters and staff on all of the resources available to them.”

coursework in Orlando and other staff members are attending leadership and training workshops locally. Here in **Hernando County** we are always working diligently to educate and inform our voters and staff on all of the resources available to them. Our goal is to increase our Vote-By-Mail requests going forward into 2018 for all Hernando County registered voters near and far.



Congratulations Denise!

3/18/2017

Denise Kelly became Denise LaVancher. With family, friends, and full Elections Staff in attendance. Denise Kelly got married to Scott LaVancher during a wonderful country-themed wedding. Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. LaVancher!



Denise LaVancher, Shirley Anderson and the entire Supervisor of Elections Staff

Elections Staff



Jay Howard

**Director of
Election
Systems**

2016 was an exciting election year and I would like to thank our

excellent poll workers for helping in breaking records and making us successful!

Even with the 2016 election year in our rearview mirror, the IT Department of your Elections Office is far from sitting back and basking in the glow of three successful elections. Instead, we are actively working to prepare for the gubernatorial Election cycle as well as working on projects that will improve many efficiencies within the Elections Office and our elections process. Here are some highlights of the projects we are working on:

Implementation of a Learning Management

System: this will allow workers to complete the core information portion of courses at home to save in class instructional time for more hands on training.

Replacing outdated EViD Electronic Poll Books: we are researching new e-poll book solutions and working on having updated technology in time for the next election.

Maintaining and servicing all elections equipment and databases.

These are just a few of the projects that the IT Department is working on. We continually strive to learn and seek input from poll workers, voters, and staff so that we can maintain a high level of accuracy, security, and voter satisfaction for every election.

“Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death.” - *Albert Einstein*



Matthew McHugh

**Systems Administrator
Early Vote Coordinator**

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2016 Election cycle. Without your commitment and dedication to this process the work we do would not be possible.

One of the crucial tasks following each election is to evaluate our successes while identifying areas for improvement. I have appreciated all of the feedback we received from voters, poll workers, and our

“We are pleased to announce that voter confidence in Early Voting has returned as a direct result of our 2016 successes.”

community partners as we strive to improve and better serve the voters of Hernando County. We are pleased to announce that *voter confidence in Early Voting has returned* as a direct result of our 2016 successes. Review of data from prior election years shows a sharp increase in turnout, especially during the General Election which boasted a **103%** increase over the 2012 General Election. Not all Early Voting sites have seen the same level of voter participation as our busier Spring Hill Locations; however we are discussing resource allocation changes in order to keep the doors open at our lower turnout Early Voting locations.

We are excited to announce development of online training programs which will act as a resource for future Poll Workers as well as temporary Election Staff. Our **General Poll Worker Training** will become a prerequisite for Poll Workers prior to signing up for their job-specific in-class training. The **Elections Staff Portal** will be implemented as a two to three day process of training our temporary and call center positions by utilizing interactive training simulations. We are also creating a resource portal for **candidates** to access on **HernandoVotes.com** which will answer any questions they may have.

Finally, in an effort to keep our voter database as concise as possible, we are using search queries to find any data entry issues or data anomalies. We have developed rigorous quality assurance procedures to raise the bar on our data entry. We are also conducting our bi-annual list maintenance activities which will update our voter list with the latest addresses for each voter and send Final Notices accordingly.

Elections Staff



Mary Elkins

Director of Voter Services

2016 Elections were exciting and successful.

Now onto different projects, and reviewing the past election to ensure a successful 2018 Election.

In our non-election year we are very busy contacting voters whom have not voted in the last two general elections cycles.

A largest percent of our voters update their record or become registered to vote when they visit the Department of Motor Vehicles. Since we receive so many registration updates automatically through the Department of Motor Vehicles, we have begun to cross-check our communications daily to ensure accuracy of data correspondence for each voter.

Did you know that since 2006 it has become a requirement to provide either Florida Driver's license, Florida ID number or the last four digits of your Social Security Number in order to register to vote? If you registered prior to 2006 and we need an update of any information you may receive a letter from our office. Our goal is to have accurate information for every registered voter, in which makes for a successful voting and an easier check-in for you on election day.



Pat Barnett

Candidate Specialist

Our 2017 calendar is filling up and we anticipate candidates will start filing soon.

Currently, we are compiling data and in the development stage on our Candidate Portal which will launch in 2018. The Candidate Portal will be very helpful to the candidates in answering many of the questions they may have.

Our next scheduled election will be 2018. That election will a gubernatorial race for Florida Governor & Cabinet. Governor Scott and his cabinet have reached their term limits. Also up for election will be U.S. Senate & cabinet members Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture.

County races in 2018 include County Commissioners, District 2 and District 4 along with the School Board with seats 1, 3, and 5. In addition, the City of Brooksville will have 3 seats open.



Elections Staff



Patricia Rummel

**Poll Worker
Coordinator**

The 2016 election cycle was one for the history books! On November 8, 2016, an astounding **95,324** of Hernando County's registered voters cast their ballots, with **60,854** of them being served by our fabulous Poll Workers! Great job team!



Our **Poll Worker Appreciation Ceremony**, scheduled to take place on April 17, 2017 from 11AM to 1:30PM at the Timber Pines Performing Arts Center, is shaping up to be an exciting event with over 240 Poll Workers expected to attend! Our event theme is Hollywood because all of our Poll Workers are stars!

While the next election is not until 2018 there is much to do to prepare. Many interactive training programs are being developed and training manuals are being revised to improve efficiency and to keep up with our ever evolving election laws.

Poll Worker recruitment is already under way with our first round of Orientations scheduled for April 19th and 20th. If you are interested in becoming a Poll Worker, just drop me an email at patricia.rummel@hernandovotes.com and I'll be happy to get you started!



Tomika Harris

**Outreach
Coordinator**

I will be going throughout the County **PROMOTING THE VOTE!** I will be doing Voter Registration Drives at different events during the year. Some of those events include: Senior Clearance, Food Truck Fiesta, National Voter Registration Day and National Night Out. My goal is to make sure that every Hernando County Resident who wants to vote has the opportunity to get registered or update their current registration information that we have on file.



Joseph Henschke

**Warehouse
Manager**

Currently I am conducting maintenance on the voting booths and have already repaired 44 and cleaned approximately 500. Every Booth needs to be cleaned, have the lights and legs checked, and about half need to have the hinges oiled. Over half of our voting booths have been in use since the early 80's. Recently, our county received over 200 booths from Seminole county which resulted in a massive savings for us. Maintaining the voting booths saves us from buying new voting booths that can cost \$150 or more.

Intern Success Stories!

As some of you may know, we offer internships during election years to help with the additional work and provide learning opportunities to individuals who are currently in school to help get a jumpstart on their careers. Here are a couple of our recent success stories from the 2016 election cycle:

For the past year I have worked as an intern with Shirley Anderson and her staff at the Supervisor of Elections Office through the Primary and General Elections. My experience at the elections office has been very rewarding. I have learned new skills and abilities as well as taught and passed some of my computer and technical skills to fellow co-workers. I had many responsibilities at the elections office such as programming the electronic poll books, working with the ICE Tabulators, assisting in training poll workers, and handling other technical helpdesk tasks. I am fortunate to have had this opportunity because I will be able to use this knowledge and experience to pursue my career where I will be studying Computer Security at the New York Institute of Technology. Thank you to Shirley Anderson and the SOE Staff for this amazing professional experience!

—*Michael*

My experience as an intern at the Supervisor of Elections office for Hernando County has been nothing short of extraordinary. Not only did I grow as an employee, but I grew as a person. I have learned about the importance of voting and the extensive amount of work that is put into it. My knowledge has done nothing but grow in the terms of organization, leadership, and teamwork at this office. The staff at the elections office has taught me so many things about the work industry and about myself. My previous time at the Supervisor of Elections has allowed me to gain experience to further my career. My next journey leads to Pasco County for the Fiscal Services department as my position as an Accounting Clerk. This is by far the best opportunity I have received in my lifetime and I could not be more appreciative of everything I have learned.

—*Alyssa*

Keep an eye out for employment opportunities at HernandoVotes.com!

Poll Worker Orientations

Poll Worker Orientations are conducted during prior to election cycles as a way of reaching out to the community to find civic minded Poll Workers to help with future elections. Over the years, our workers may retire or move away, so we constantly need new people to join the ranks!

Activity	Date	Location
Poll Worker Orientation	April 19, 2017	SOE Westside Office: 7443 Forest Oaks Blvd. Spring Hill, 34601
Poll Worker Orientation	April 20, 2017	SOE Westside Office: 7443 Forest Oaks Blvd. Spring Hill, 34601

Orientation spots fill up quick,
email the **Poll Worker Coordinator** today to save yourself a seat!

Patricia.Rummel@hernandovotes.com