

COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Rules and Regulations Concerning **Pre-canvass, Canvassing, and Computation of Returns**

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to govern the conduct of <u>observers</u> permitted under the Election Code to observe the pre-canvassing, canvassing, and computation of the returns of votes cast for each primary and general election.

- 1. Each observer permitted under the Election Code may be present at the pre-canvassing, canvassing, and computation of the returns of votes cast, including the pre-canvassing and canvassing of mail-in and absentee ballots. Each political party and political body which has nominated candidates in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be entitled to appoint one authorized representative. Each candidate for nomination or election at any election shall be entitled to appoint one authorized representative.
- 2. Observers shall not interfere with, question, talk to, or otherwise disrupt the individuals performing the pre-canvass, canvass and computation so as to not distract these individuals from their assigned task.
- 3. Observers may ask questions or discuss issues with the Director or Assistant Director of Election Services, or his/her designee.
- 4. Observers shall be positioned in an observation area designated by the Director or Assistant Director within the room where the pre-canvassing, canvassing, and computation occurs. Observers shall not be physically positioned in any way that would interfere with the pre-canvassing, canvassing, and computation of the returns.
- 5. Observers will be admitted into the observation area on a first-come, first-served basis. If a room reaches the maximum capacity allowed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, observers may be refused entry to the observation area until a sufficient number of people leave the area.
- 6. The failure of any observer to comply with these guidelines will result in all privileges being revoked and the removal of the observer from the observation area.

