



Community Standards

Rules for Campaigning at Early Voting Locations in Travis County

Travis County has always taken the extra step of placing Early Voting locations in the most convenient, public places possible. Our grocery stores and other retailers are not required by law to serve as voting centers. To the contrary, they volunteer to serve voters out of civic pride and love for our community. We are guests in the homes of our EV locations. To keep the Early Voting program welcome at retail locations, we all need to follow a few simple rules.

CANDIDATES and SUPPORTERS

Stay in your designated area.

Do not run into the parking lot or in front of cars. You will create a safety hazard for yourself and the vehicles. Do not chase down voters. Do not shout at voters. Your actions can easily be viewed as rude or intimidating even if you are trying to seem friendly.

Texas law says you must stay behind the 100' marker, 100' from the outside entrance door. Observing the 100' marker is in addition to basic automobile/parking lot safety. Do not walk with a voter and cross over the 100' marker.

Be nice to everyone at all times, no excuses.

SIGNS

Don't wave campaign signs in front of cars driving by or pulling into the parking lot. You will create a driving hazard for yourself and the car.

Campaign signs have wooden or metal stakes or posts to drive into the ground. These stakes do damage to irrigation systems, especially the sharp metal posts. Be careful of irrigation systems when driving signs into the ground and plant only in designated areas. Do not plant signs in the right of way (ROW). Misplaced campaign signs likely will get picked up and thrown away.

Don't brandish signs or hit or threaten to hit other people with campaign signs. Clean up the area as you leave.

CANDIDATE LITERATURE and LITTERING

Be mindful of where your candidate literature goes. Do not litter the parking lots. Do not chase people down to hand them brochures.

If you see litter, please pick it up. In the future, our retail Early Voting hosts might grow to appreciate campaigns that are friendly and cooperative.

CARS and TRUCKS

You may not park a campaign car or truck on private property unless you are actively shopping in the store. No "all day" or "overnight" campaign signage parking.

You may not block legitimate shoppers from using the parking spaces in the parking lot by taking up a parking space(s) for your campaign purposes.

Private property laws allow the owner of the parking lot to tow your car if you are not using the space appropriately.

COMPLAINTS

If you have questions, problems, or complaints your first phone call is to the Travis County Elections Division Office. 512 854 4996.

Often, there are Elections Division staff on-site who can assist you as well. Do not call law enforcement unless you have been instructed to do so by the Elections Division. According to state and federal law, uniformed officers called to a polling place can be viewed as an intimidation tactic. If you have an injury, dial 911 and then call the Elections Division.

PLEDGE

I will do everything in my power to keep Early Voting civil and welcome at public locations in Travis County. I can campaign and engage in free speech while, at the same time, honoring the property rights of the host of the Early Voting location. I will observe basic traffic safety precautions in the parking areas for myself and others. I don't want to see voters deprived of an excellent voting site because candidates or their supporters caused hazards and problems at an Early Voting location.