



# COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Services Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
633 Court Street  
Reading, PA 19601

Phone: 610.478.6490  
Fax: 610.478.6218

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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 observers 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 three authorized representatives. Each candidate for nomination or election at any election shall be entitled to appoint two authorized representatives. Only one observer per party/candidate will be permitted inside each canvassing location.
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 of, or discuss issues with, the Assistant Director of Election Services, the CAO or his or her designee.
4. Observers shall be positioned in an observation area designated by the Assistant Director or the CAO 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. In order to maintain adequate social distancing as a result of COVID-19, 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.



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